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Sport – Pages 51 & 52



Airlift for man in fall off bridge over route

A MAN in his 30s was airlifted to hospital after falling from a bridge over the Black Country Route on Sunday.

Police were called to the stretch of road near to the junction with Marshland Way in Bentley at 1.40pm.

The road heading to Willenhall was closed and an air ambulance was called to the scene to airlift the man to Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Birmingham.

West Midlands Police said the man was in a serious condition on Monday. The ambulance service said the man suffered chest, leg and pelvic injuries.

Witnesses

It is not clear if the fall or a collision with a car had contributed to the injuries. West Midlands Ambulance Service spokesman Steve Parry said: "He was treated at the scene and airlifted to Queen Elizabeth Hospital."

West Midlands Police spokesman Lee Page, said: "Officers were at the scene speaking to witnesses to establish what happened. We are not treating the incident as suspicious."

The road closure had an impact on the M6 with queues forming on the northbound carriageway near the slip road at Junction 10. Police reopened the route at 5.10pm.

Flag tribute for Forces

A FLAG-RAISING ceremony was held in Walsall on Monday to mark Armed Forces Day.

Walsall Mayor Councillor Mohammad Nazir showed the town's appreciation for the role of servicemen and women at the ceremony. He said: "It is right and fitting that Walsall plays its part in this important event."

The 10-minute ceremony was held in front of the Council House. The mayor also hosted an event to mark the signing of the Armed Forces Community Covenant. Armed Forces Day is being marked nationally on Saturday.

MOSQUE SECURITY TO BE STEPPED UP

Report by Catherine Dalton and Craig Hughes

SECURITY will be stepped up after a home-made bomb exploded near a Walsall mosque in a crime condemned by a senior police as 'despicable'.

Detectives are continuing to trawl CCTV as part of the investigation into the discovery of the device by the Aisha Mosque and Islamic Centre in Rutter Street, Caldmore. The force has said there was currently no evidence to suggest it was an act of terrorism but stressed they were keeping an open mind.

The device was discovered on Saturday but is believed to have exploded on Friday when local people heard a bang that was assumed to be a firework.

Hospital's bid to free up 30 beds

UP to 30 beds will be freed at Walsall Manor Hospital if plans to move patients to Cannock for aftercare are adopted.

Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust wants patients who live in Cannock but undergo complicated operations in Walsall to receive 'step down care' at the Brunswick Road site. Trust bosses have pitched the idea to the administrators of Mid Staffordshire NHS Foundation Trust, tasked with drawing up plans to make Cannock and Stafford Hospitals financially and clinically viable.

Richard Kirby, chief executive of Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust, said: "If the administrators like our proposals we would like to deliver as much of the specialist healthcare in Cannock as we can. That way they would have better links with the community services and social services so people get a better experience."

Walsall Manor Hospital has seen a 40 per cent rise in the number of Staffordshire patients it treats, most coming from the Cannock area. Mr Kirby added: "We are struggling to accommodate the Staffordshire patients. We started to see big increases in the number of Cannock and Stafford people coming to Walsall when the Stafford Hospital crisis came to light."

"We want to preserve for Walsall patients the good services at Walsall Manor they have at the moment, but if we are able to deliver these services in Cannock we will deliver the space to care for more patients from Walsall and Staffordshire."

Zia Ul-Haq, a senior member of the mosque, said: "The community is coping quite well, it is business as normal. There is a bit of concern, that is to be expected. The mosque as it is has a very good security system but we are thinking of upgrading it."

"The community has vowed to maintain a united front and leading civic and church figures have given their support to people in Caldmore."

Walsall Mayor and assistant Police Commissioner for the West Midlands, Councillor Mohammad Nazir, said: "If this proves to be an attack against a place of worship, then it is an attack on everyone whatever their beliefs because it's an attack on the right to believe and practice your beliefs."

Proud

"I am proud of the response of the local community, it's refused to be panicked it's refused to be intimidated or cowed; not just Muslims but all sections of Walsall's community. If whoever planted this device intended to divide us then they have failed."

"We have to keep that unity and determination to live our lives in peace and not let violence win."

West Midlands Police Assistant Chief Constable Sharon Rowe has described the incident as a 'despicable' act. She said: "I want to reassure every community in the West Midlands that we are using every available resource to find the person or people responsible."

Mudasar Iqbal, a car mechanic, heard a loud bang on Friday evening as he approached the mosque. Elders and neighbours dismissed the noise as a firework going off but father-of-two Mr Iqbal believed it was too loud for that.

He said: "I went back for afternoon prayer the next day and I was curious what kind of firecracker it would have been to make that kind of noise. I went to look and found a piece of wire attached to a kind of metal plate. It looked as if it had no business being there."



Superintendent Keith Fraser, mosque spokesman Zia Ul-Haq and Councillor Zahid Ali talk to the media outside the Aisha Mosque and Islamic Centre in Caldmore



Police carry out a detailed forensic search of the scene where the device exploded



Car mechanic Mudasar Iqbal found the bomb remains on Saturday afternoon

Window cleaner in freak accident

A WINDOW cleaner was taken to hospital after a lorry struck his ladder.

An air ambulance was called to Lichfield Road, in Shire Oak, Walsall. The man suffered a head injury at around 12.30 on Monday.

Residents said he is believed to have been carrying the ladder when it was struck by the lorry, spinning him around.

It happened near the entrance to Shire Oak Academy and caused the main route to be closed for more than an hour.

Hurt

Grandmother-of-five Audrey Heath lives near to where the man, believed to be in his 40s, was hurt.

The 78-year-old said: "I was told the window cleaner was coming down the drive with his ladders. The lorry hit the ladders and spun him around. I hope he makes a speedy recovery."

Another resident, who did not want to be named, said: "I spoke to the lorry driver. I asked him what happened, and he said the man was coming down the drive. His ladders shot out into the road in front of the lorry."

The man was taken to Walsall Manor Hospital by land ambulance where he was being treated for a suspected head injury.

Rugby club pitch plan

A POPULAR rugby club in Streety could be expanded with a new pitch.

Veseyans Rugby Football Club has lodged plans with Walsall Council to change agricultural land adjacent to the club in Little Hardwick Road into a sports field. It comes after an earlier application for two new pitches was refused with a lack of parking among the issues.

Iain Tatlow, junior chairman at the club, said the number of youngsters joining the club had grown dramatically in the last four years. He added: "We've gone from nothing to around 105 members."

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Gipsy caravans plan in garden sparks outcry

MORE than 70 angry residents flocked to a public meeting to voice their disapproval over a planned gipsy caravan site in a back garden at Essington.

Bill Watton hopes to put three caravans - containing two gipsy households - in the rear garden of his house in Long Lane, Essington.

South Staffordshire District Council's planning committee will make a decision on the controversial plans next week.

Many villagers object to the caravans being situated on green belt land and are concerned about increased traffic.

Last week's meeting, at Long Lane Sport & Community Centre, continued the intense debate in the village after the previous week's Essington Parish Council meeting.

Mr Watton himself did not attend. Councillor David Cliff chaired the meeting and he was warned by residents that approving the plans

would set a precedent for future applications.

Long Lane resident Caroline Adams, aged 48, said: "If they want to live as a traveller they shouldn't be living in the back garden in a residential lane. If this is agreed and it went ahead it would set a precedent. Rather than stay in a nursing home people will say they may as well stay in a back garden."

There are currently four caravan sites in Essington.

Councillor Cliff said 16 letters of objection had been received. A petition opposing the plan has been signed by 135 residents.

He added: "He hasn't done anything that is illegal or that the council could challenge."

South Staffordshire MP Gavin Williamson has spoken out over the proposal, saying he hoped it would be rejected.

It is expected that a final decision will be made on July 2.

Men tagged for selling fake DVDs

TWO men from Walsall caught selling fake DVDs have been given suspended prison sentences.

Walsall Magistrates' Court heard that on December 16 at Broad Walk Retail Park, Bescot, Raymond Baker, 41, of Wednesbury Road, was found with 662 counterfeit DVDs.

Carl Smith, 39, of Botany Road, admitted infringing copyright on titles such as Skyfall and Total Recall, and Baker admitted selling DVDs which infringed copyright. Smith also admitted obstructing a police officer.

They were both given a six-week prison sentence, suspended for 12 months. Smith was handed a community order and will be electronically tagged for four weeks. Baker was given a community order with a nine-month supervision requirement and will be tagged for six weeks. They will each pay £175 costs and £60 victim surcharge.

Council travel costs are up

COUNCILS spent £4.6 million on travel in one year despite swingeing budget cuts. The total amount local authorities in the Black Country and Staffordshire paid for flights, hotels, rail and mileage was £3,991,987 in 2009 but had risen by more than £600,000 in 2012.

Walsall Council spent £2,029,788 on travel and hotels in 2009 compared with £2,313,387 in 2011-12. Mike Bird, Walsall Council leader, said: "We keep a very close eye on it but fares increase year on year, and that's outside our control."

Knife threat

A TEENAGER was punched and threatened with a knife as his BMX was stolen in Walsall.

The 14-year-old was with two friends when he was approached by a large group near Oak Park Leisure Centre in Coppice Road.

The young man was threatened and assaulted between 6.15pm and 6.45pm on Wednesday, June 19.

Listen to the band

TWO free bandstand concerts will be at Willenhall Memorial Park next month when Willenhall Salvation Army Band performs at the Praise In The Park event on July 14 from 3pm to 5pm at the Pinson Road site.

Help will play 60s music on July 28 from 2pm to 4pm.

Doubts grow over £3m health centre scheme

MULTI-MILLION pound plans for a new health centre in Walsall could be scrapped after two GP practices pulled out of the scheme.

The former Jabez Cliff leatherworks in the town centre has been earmarked for the £3 million complex in Lower Forster Street. It has been in the pipeline for a number of

Events hit by rain and high winds

HIGH winds and rain hit two big annual events in Walsall, causing a drop in the number of visitors.

Organisers of Aldridge Fayre and Brownhills Canal Festival both reported lower than expected attendance due to the wet weather.

Strong gusts caused several tents and gazebos to be ruined at the 19th annual Aldridge Fayre. Aldridge and District Lions Club said income from this year's event was set to be lower than usual because of the smaller crowd.

Suffered

Club president and fayre co-ordinator Harry Fry said: "We have suffered some quite bad weather at previous events but the high wind gusts certainly caused some problems for some of those attending. Several tents and gazebos, including one of our own, were affected and at least four were completely destroyed. However, the stall holders braved the rest of the show without cover.

Meanwhile, the Brownhills Canal Festival was also hit, as organisers said it was the worst weather they had experienced in the event's 11-year history. Georgina Feraday, from the Brownhills Local Committee, said: "It was dreadful weather and it really kept the crowds away."

years but two out of three interested surgeries have dropped out.

It comes with the business case for the health centre in its final stages.

One of the anticipated surgeries to be run from the site pulled out several months ago but it was expected the project for a state-of-the-art facility could go ahead with two.

But one of remaining practices has now decided not to pursue the move which leaves developers looking for other interested parties or having to consider alternative uses of the site.

Councillor Mohammed Arif, who has called for the new health centre as part of the Butts and Hatherton Health Centre, said: "We have been working on this for the last five years. I am absolutely disappointed that the practice has pulled out."

"We are left with just one at the moment which makes it difficult to go ahead with the scheme."

"We either look at alternative uses for the site and we are working with the developer and the owner to see what we can do."

"But as a ward councillor I would want a state-of-the-art health centre to go in... With the Gigaport we envisage an additional 3,000 town centre workers potentially looking for a doctor."

The Victorian Jabez Cliff factory has been pulled down after a major blaze in August 2011. Conservationists had called for the facade of the building to be retained as part of the health centre plan but that was not possible after the fire.

Church under attack from yobs



St Anne's church warden John Asbury with one of the metal guards that was knocked off stained glass windows in an attack by vandals

STAINED glass windows at an historic Willenhall church have been smashed days ahead of a fundraiser to boost funds.

Members of St Anne's Church now face having to fork out more cash to replace the panes which are believed to date back up to 80 years. They were smashed after what is thought to be a vandal attack between June 18 and the morning of June 19.

Metal guards which are used to protect the glass, were also damaged first.

The windows have now been boarded up ahead of getting permanent replacements.

Parishioners carried out a clean up inside the building to remove broken glass and ensure there would be no disruption to services.

It is the latest attack on the building, with lead having been stripped from the roof previously.

The church is due to celebrate 152 years next month.

Church warden John Asbury said:

"Everybody is absolutely shocked and disgusted. People are upset and worrying we have got to raise even more money."

"It looks like they have been smashed with a heavy ball or something has been thrown. There is no way it is an accident."

"We cleaned it up and the service was carried out. We are not going to let those responsible win."

War

The church summer fair was held on Saturday to raise funds.

Mr Asbury, 63, said the church had survived bombings during the war but had now fallen victim to vandal attacks.

The church has a regular congregation of 25 to 30 people every Sunday and the church hall is used by pensioner groups, a youth club and karate group.

Anyone who is able to support the fundraising drive can call Mr Asbury on 07510 167182.

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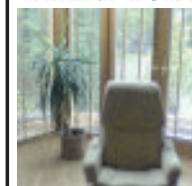
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Letter to staff after fatal falls at Manor

THREE patients have died after falls at Walsall Manor Hospital in the past three months, it has emerged.

A letter has been sent to clinical staff in the Moat Road hospital to 'reiterate the importance of falls prevention'.

Bosses said there had been significant improvements in reducing the number of falls at the hospital. But they said there had been three cases where patients had suffered significant injuries which may have contributed to their deaths.

Director of nursing Sue Hartley said: "Whilst we have made significant improvements in patient falls, during March and April this year there were three falls that resulted in significant injury to patients and may have contributed to their death, for which we would like to offer our sincere condolences."

Decision

"We therefore took the decision to issue a letter to all clinical staff to reiterate the importance of falls prevention and to also ensure that the safety of our patients remains the highest priority."

She added there had been a drop in the number of falls happening every month.

"Since April, we have seen a month-on-month decrease in the number of falls at the hospital and hope to maintain these improvements moving forward," added Ms Hartley. "In Safe Hands" is one of our promises to patients and we continue to work to deliver improvements."

Bosses at Walsall Manor Hospital have recently reported an increase in the number of patients coming in to A&E. An extended period of problems associated with the winter months, including norovirus has hit the hospital.

Bosses have agreed to make £75,000 of cash available to cover winter-related issues if required.

Museum loss

THE Black Country Living Museum made a loss of £599,745 as visitor numbers plummeted by almost 50,000 in a year.

A fall in ticket sales and spending by visitors cost the museum £285,202 last year while a drop in donations added to its problems.

Bosses at the site in Tipton Road, Dudley, blamed the poor weather.

Menace back in court for breaching order

A NOTORIOUS menace – banned from parts of the Walsall borough for five years after abusing residents and interrupting church services – has breached his anti-social behaviour order within a week, a court heard.

Gary William Adams from Darlaston was banned from church grounds and certain streets in Walsall under the order made by magistrates on June 12. But he was seen by police in King Street, which was one of the areas he was told to avoid, on the following Wednesday and was hauled back before

Walsall Magistrates Court where the 55-year-old, of Pinfold Street, admitted a charge of breaching an Asbo.

The hearing was told King Street was the quickest way for him to get to the post office and he did not have crutches with him that he needed to assist his walking at the time.

Miss Rachel Smith, prosecuting, said Adams was seen by Police Community Support Officers and appeared to be intoxicated.

Adams was given an interim anti-social behaviour order in April ahead of the full

order being put in force earlier this month. Miss Smith said it was the fifth time he had been in breach.

Mr Sarbjit Singh Lalli, defending, said his client was not causing any nuisance at the time. He added: "That is the quickest route for him to go the shops. He has difficulty walking and there is no suggestion he was acting in an anti-social manner."

Adams, who appeared at the hearing in custody before being released, was given a 12-month supervision order with an alcohol treatment requirement for six months.

At the full Asbo hearing earlier this month the court was told he disrupted services and meetings at St Matthew's Church and at St Jude's in Chukery.

It was said he had abused passers-by and homeowners in and around the town for the past seven years – including refusing to move from people's front doorways and driveways.

He was barred from entering the grounds and buildings of the two churches, and ordered not to be abusive to clergy and churchgoers.

Rival cinema projects in race to be the best

THERE is not enough demand for two new cinemas in Walsall town centre, a council chief has warned, as two top chains tussle over opening multi-million pound cinemas.

Odeon and Vue were both granted permission by Walsall Council at a special planning meeting last Thursday to build huge cinema complexes – each one creating a minimum of 200 jobs – although each had objected to the other's plan.

Vue has been given the go-ahead to build a nine-screen cinema opposite the new Tesco development as part of a proposed £12 million Littleton Centre scheme.

Malcolm Wilcox, managing director for Cordwell Developments working alongside Vue, told the meeting: "Cordwell's scheme is deliverable because the decision is all about ensuring Walsall gets the cinema it has waited for ever since the ABC closed in 1989."

Work on the development is set to begin this October. Odeon has been given the thumbs-up to build a two-storey cinema complex near the Waterfront on Wolverhampton Street near Crown Wharf Retail Park and the new Premier Inn Hotel. This will include a multi-screen cinema, shops, restaurants, bars, outdoor seating and a car park with up to 200 spaces.

M6 Toll offers free periods to ease jams

THE M6 Toll could be opened for free when the main M6 is congested, if the Government agrees to release the operators from an obligation to part-finance a link road, it has emerged.

Midland Expressway, which runs the toll, is attempting to renegotiate its debt burden.

The company has debts of £1.03 billion, which mature in 2015, and as part of its 50-year concession would have to pay more than £100 million towards the costs of the M54 link road if the Government decides to proceed.

This week it emerged the firm has asked for the funding requirement to be scrapped in return for allowing cars and lorries stuck in tailbacks on the M6 to re-route to the 27-mile toll road for free

Autumn

Jeremy Williams, of ID Planning working on behalf of Odeon, described the plans as the 'final jigsaw piece in the Walsall Waterfront development'.

Work on the Odeon complex is set to begin this autumn with plans to open by autumn 2014.

But Walsall Council regeneration boss Councillor Adrian Andrew said there was not enough demand for both cinemas in the town. He said there was expected to be 'fierce competition' with a race between both developers to sign up restaurants and shops.

Councillor Andrew said: "It was never on the cards even from day one that Walsall people could support 18 cinema screens. The demand will be for one nine-screen cinema. Both of them are very good schemes."

Dianne is dying but living life to the full



Fearless – Dianne Freeth, of Coven, a former Walsall teacher, is determined to live her life to the full in her final months

"YOU get told you've got six months to live and you think it's the end of the world... but you've got to live your life – I'm fearless now."

Four months ago, Dianne Freeth's life was turned upside down when, a year after being diagnosed with lung cancer, she was told it was terminal.

Many would struggle to cope with the news, let it consume them or destroy them. But Dianne says she's living with cancer, not dying with cancer, and hasn't looked back since.

"My way of coping is that I'm upfront," says the 56-year-old former Walsall teacher from Coven.

"I've got cancer, I've got no hair and I'm dying – that's the best way to be with people because you should talk about it."

"I know I'm going to die so I'm living life to the full."

Dianne has filled her final months with challenges and events to celebrate her life and give something back.

And in an act of defiance, she will be taking on a 250-mile bike ride in September, despite doctors telling her she will only survive until August.

Challenge

The former PE teacher, who was told she had six months to live in February, will ride from Cardiff Castle to Caernarfon Castle.

"I'm going to prove them wrong," Dianne said. "There's more to life than just sitting here and going out with my friends. It's about giving something back. To have a challenge every month gives me something to live for."

Dianne's diagnosis comes five years after her husband Andy died of lung cancer. They had married in 1987. She said losing him and having to be strong

for her son Stuart, 23, had helped her cope with her illness.

Born in Cumbria, Dianne moved to the West Midlands aged 18. After teacher training college, she taught at TP Riley School, now Walsall Academy, until 1989 and moved to Castle Business & Enterprise College, Leamore.

She has never smoked in her life and has always been fit and active, becoming British Colleges champion in the 400m in 1977.

She said: "I have my tearful days, of course I do. I won't see my son get married. That's the bit that makes me cry. I won't see my grandchildren. That's the regret I have out of everything. But I look back at my life and I had a wonderful husband, a lovely son and a good house. I've had a good life."

Visit: www.justgiving.com/dianne-freeth to donate to the bike ride challenge.

NEWS in brief

Water polo league back Gala Baths

THE British Water Polo League has added its voice to calls for the future of Walsall's Gala Baths to be safeguarded.

The league has used the Tower Street pool for tournaments and says it should be preserved for the community.

Council bosses have insisted no decision has yet been made over the future of the baths while a review takes place of Walsall leisure facilities.

David Andrews, chairman of the British Water Polo League, said the Gala Baths was the league's most-used venue. "There is no other public facility of sufficient depth in the whole of the Midlands capable of hosting the sport," he added.

Allotments and bowling at home

NEW allotments, a bowling green and a woodland garden have all been created at a care home in Walsall following a £10,000 grant.

Pelsall Hall was given the cash to help develop residents' love of the outdoors. The home made a successful application to the Quality Improvement Incentive Scheme, which is operated by Walsall Council.

Now, a raised allotment area suitable for wheelchair users, a wildlife garden and crown green bowls area have been created, along with new seating.

Viking Views in Repton rambles

WALSALL Group of the Ramblers will be heading to Repton in Derbyshire for a seven-mile walk on Sunday.

Called Viking Views, the walk will include views of Milton village and Foremark church and a reservoir.

Non-members can take part but should call walk leaders on 01922 453805 for further details.

More information can also be found about the Walsall Group at www.walsallramblers.co.uk website.

Friendly folk are sought by group

WALSALL Friendship Circle holds its next meeting on Wednesday, July 3. The group meets at Hatherton United Reformed Church, in Hatherton Road, 10.30am to noon. New members are welcome. For more information call Janet Lynch on 01922 860118.

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NEWS

THE BEST OF PETER RHODES



WE ARE on holiday in Beer, Devon. As I write this, it's another sultry day on the beach, heat rippling off the pebbles and the sky as blue as a sailor's shirt. Trippers in shorts and sunglasses queue for the all-day breakfasts and chat lazily under the cafe umbrellas. It is worth recalling that the weather experts who last week hadn't a clue that this hot spell was coming are the same forecasters who are this week predicting washout summers for the next 10 years. So they can't get it right five days ahead but they are quietly confident about 2023. Allow me to raise one eyebrow.

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A MET Office spokesman on Radio 4 helpfully explained the difference between weather and climate. Climate is what you expect. Weather is what you get.

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AFTER 12 years of combat in Afghanistan, the Americans and UK are now seeking peace talks with the Taliban. Isn't this what we used to call a defeat?

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I LOVED the story a few days ago about little Adam Kirby, from south London who, at the age of two was found to have an IQ of 141. Mind you, his parents guessed he was a bit of a prodigy when Adam potty-trained himself at 23 months - having read a book on the subject.

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A REPORT by the Institute of Fiscal Studies reveals that Britons are consuming fewer calories but are two stone heavier than people were 30 years ago. So what's new? I recall my father, a builder, remarking in the 1970s on the shrinking size of the average labourer's lunch. Back in the 1950s, when men worked without the aid of brick hoists, cement mixers or dumper trucks, lunch on building sites was a big, calorie-packed meal of cheese or corned-beef sandwiches. By the 1970s it had shrunk to a bag of crisps and a Kit-Kat. We have swapped backbreaking toil for flabby bodies and most folk seem happy with the deal.

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THIS week yet another survey reveals that white British kids from poor homes are the ethnic group least likely to succeed at school. We ought to be surprised, but are we? Every other group seems to realise that education is the way to succeed in life. In too many British families, anyone who shows academic promise is taunted for being a swat, a snob or a class traitor. Deep in the DNA of Britain is the belief that you must know your place and never get above yourself and that college ain't for the likes of us. Kids fail because they are bred to fail.

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I HAVE been in journalism for 44 years and I bet each of those 44 years has brought news of an imminent miracle cure for cancer. Latest contender this week is a paper in Nature Cell Biology which tells how scientists at University College London believe they have discovered how cancer spreads from one part of the body to another. If they are on the right track they say it could be "relatively easy" to develop drugs to stop it. And yet look behind the headlines and you discover that the scientists have been working with frog and fish embryos rather than cancer cells and experts admit: "There's a very long way to go." I am dead against censorship but just as pornography should be carefully monitored and controlled, so should hope.

Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star

Firm is first to benefit from zone

THE first firm to benefit from a new multi-million pound enterprise zone in the Black Country has unveiled its expansion, bringing 45 jobs.

Nationwide Platforms has extended its depot in Darlaston, launching a new customer service centre for the region at its site.

The centre comes after the company in Willenhall Road opened premises holding 900 pieces of

machinery last year. The scheme is the first project completed at the enterprise zone since a Local Development Order was agreed by Walsall Council. This established simplified planning rules to encourage investment.

Nationwide Platforms provides access equipment including scissor-lifts, boom lifts and van and truck mounted platforms. The firm also

provides trailer mounted booms and specialist equipment, such as tracked access and narrow spider machines.

The central region customer service centre at the four acre Darlaston site will work with six other depots across the East Midlands and East Anglia regions.

Andy Parker, regional operations manager, said: "The central region

is packed with opportunities of all sizes to introduce and expand upon.

"Our new depot puts us in a prime position to both manage local requirements whilst also offering support and expertise through the Midlands, East Anglia, and beyond."

Peter Douglas, executive director for operations, said bosses were delighted to have a permanent new home.

£1.3m church expansion work is just weeks away

A LONG-awaited £1.3 million expansion plan at a Walsall church which is used by more than 1,500 people a month is due to begin within weeks.

Aldridge Parish Church, at The Green, won planning approval more than two years ago to demolish its rectory, church rooms and garage and create a two-storey building for congregation and community use.

The scheme will get under way at the end of July. Features of the building will include a central foyer area, cafe, offices, toilets, kitchen, children's room, function room, rector's study, lounge and meeting room.

Final arrangements are being made with contractors and more than £500,000 has been raised towards the project, with the remainder due to come from a land sale, grants and further fundraising.

The project was temporarily put in limbo until a new rector, John Coyne, was inducted in March last year.

Church warden Helen Gilbert said it was a time of 'great excitement and anticipation' and the church rooms would replace the crumbling temporary classrooms in use since 1948.

She added: "Over the years these rooms have provided activities for members of the congregation and the wider community of all ages.

"They are well beyond repair and are no longer adequate for our needs.

by Lisa O'Brien

"The Diocese of Lichfield and the church are working closely together to develop the whole site."

She said people had given generously to the project and a gift and pledge day was held last month when many church members and families came and presented their gifts.

"When these gifts are added to the amount already raised our total to date is over £500,000, with further gifts promised," she added.

"We are immensely grateful to all those who have given so generously in this way and to others who are finding new and innovative ways of raising additional funding by selling some of their possessions and organising concerts and similar events.

"The final arrangements for the engagement of contractors are now under way and we anticipate that work will begin at the end of July."

The building fund for the scheme launched in June 2009.

Keep training call

BUSINESSES need to continue offering apprenticeships in Walsall to help tackle youth unemployment, says a local councillor.

Those given support to start an apprenticeship or a training programme in the borough were praised at a special awards ceremony. Employers and learning providers have helped more than 130 young people start an apprenticeship through the council's multi-million pound investment programme, Walsall Works.

Regeneration chief councillor Adrian Andrew said: "Apprenticeships offer a great route into some rewarding careers."

Costumes aim to make a splash



Collections officer Catherine Lister with some of the swimsuits on display at the museum

FROM cotton bloomers to a psychedelic bikini of the 1970s - swimwear throughout the decades is on display in Walsall.

Summer on the Beach, at Walsall Museum, shows how styles have changed over the years.

Around 10 pieces are on display at the Lichfield Street museum, with the earliest item dating back to 1910. The purple cotton costume dress, which has bloomers and a

tie, is one of the more unusual pieces in the collection, which then takes visitors through to a floral skirted swimsuit from 1949, a lime green one piece in ruched fabric through to a nylon Lycra bikini from the 1970s. The most recent piece in the collection, which is on show until September 11, is from the 1980s. Catherine Lister, collections officer at Walsall Museum, said: "It's a very fitting exhibition for the summer."

Demand to halt the culling of badgers

A BID to demand the Government to stop the cull of badgers is to be considered by Walsall Council.

A notice of motion has been put forward by councillors Pete Smith, Chris and Paul Bott for a meeting of the Full Council next month.

They are seeking councillors' support to call on the Government to stop the cull.

The notice states more than 70 per cent of the badger population in large areas of the country will be killed, many of them healthy and many of them injured and suffering before death.

Independent scientific studies have shown culling would be of little help in reducing bovine TB, indicating it could make things worse in some areas.

Councillor Smith said they want the government to implement a more sustainable and humane solution of both a vaccination programme and improved testing.

Scheme is in the top 50

A MULTI-million pound housing development built in Walsall town centre has been named as one of the top 50 in the UK.

The £55m Walsall Waterfront, developed by the Accord Group and Jessup Build Develop, was one of just three housing developments in the West Midlands selected.

Judge and Chartered Institute of Housing Board member Elaine Elkington praised the 322 home site, which saw the redevelopment of 5.5 acres of derelict brownfield land, saying "the treatment of it next to The New Art Gallery is very effective".

The large regeneration project also featured homes for doctors and nurses working at Walsall Manor Hospital.

Injuries service

A CHARITY for people with brain injuries is launching a new service in Walsall.

It is aimed at helping victims and their carers and is being run from The Hub in Lichfield Street, by Headway Black Country. It offers rehabilitation through art and retraining of cognitive skills.

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Match in memory of a hero

A CHARITY football match will be held on Sunday to raise money for a memorial garden to a hero Walsall soldier, who died while going to the aid of injured comrades.

Friends and family of Corporal Jay Horne are raising money for a garden to be constructed at Walsall Arboretum, at a cost of around £20,000.

Father-of-two Cpl Horne died in Afghanistan in July 2009, aged 27, after soldiers from 2nd Battalion The Rifles were hit by a bomb blast.

He and Birmingham soldier Rifleman Joseph Murphy went to help injured comrades when they were caught in a second blast.

Tournament

The charity match will take place at Joseph Leckie School, in Walstead Road, Delves. It is being organised by his school friend Ian Merrett.

"We've got a team together of Jay Horne's friends and family and we're lining up against a team of managers from the Silverdale team," he said.

There will also be a raffle, and food will be available. Entry to the match will cost £1 and kick-off is at 11am.

Mr Merrett is also organising a junior football tournament on July 13 and 14. To sign up for the children's tournament, call Mr Merrett on 07429191160.

Bad weather pitch setback

BAD weather has pushed back the long-awaited return of sport at Broadway West Playing Fields in Walsall.

Council chiefs have confirmed that the once-contaminated fields are unlikely to be used for football and cricket until next year.

Ball games have not been played there for around a decade following the discovery of dangerous metals in the soil.

A £400,000 clean up is taking place.

It had been hoped football would return this year with cricket the following summer. But council chiefs warned football would be unlikely to return by the start of the new season for 2013/14 because of heavy rain and snow in the first three months of the year.

Last week they confirmed cricket and football pitches will now not be ready until 2014.

M6 lane closures delayed until July

OVERNIGHT lane closures planned for the M6 to install overhead gantries, leading to major diversions, have been postponed.

The legs for two gantries, spanning the width of the motorway, were due to be put in place between junction five for Castle Bromwich and six for Spaghetti Junction during four overnight closures this month.

Drivers were facing 14-mile diversions due to the work, which is part of the £126 million scheme that will open up the hard shoulder to ease congestion at peak hours.

But Highways Agency bosses have revealed there have been technical issues regarding the refurbishment of the gantries and the work will take place next month instead.

CCTV

However, some lane closures will still be in force before then as that section of motorway will have CCTV camera masts and communications equipment cabinets installed.

Rob Edwards, project manager for the scheme, said: "Due to a change in the

planned sequencing of the works it is no longer necessary to close the entire motorway between these two junctions over the (June) weekends. This is good news for road users.

"When driving through the roadworks, drivers should observe the reduced speed limit, get into the correct lane and leave plenty of time for their journeys."

Once completed, the £126.4m motorway scheme will cut congestion, make journey times more reliable and improve safety through the use of variable mandatory

speed limits and by opening the hard shoulder as an extra running lane.

Highways Agency spokeswoman Dee Smith said: "We're not in a position to erect the gantries as there has been a delay in getting them refurbished."

Drivers are being encouraged to keep updated with the latest planned closure and disruption information on this scheme through the Highways Agency website, and media and traffic news updates via the regional Twitter channel @HATraffic_wmds.

Councillor's warning of 'devastating' new cuts

HUGE cuts of £80 million will strip council services in Walsall 'to the bone' and have a devastating impact, says a senior councillor.

Councillor Pete Smith has called on councillors to reject more cuts as it emerged the authority had to save the huge sum over the next five years. The Democratic Labour Party representative said it was time to end council austerity.

Tremendous task to make fresh wave of savings

WALSALL Council has been hit by further Government cuts to the tune of £16.5m with rising prices and changes to the welfare system also hitting the public purse.

The revelation over the depth of the latest cuts came at last week's meeting of the council's cabinet.

Deputy leader Adrian Andrew said the council faced an 'enormous' task.

"We have a tremendous amount of work to do to cope with the tremendous number of changes we are going to have to make," he warned.

The council will launch a public consultation this summer with bosses looking at where cuts and savings can be made.

Council leader Mike Bird has in the past accused the Government of 'making councils do its 'dirty work'.

Analysis of Government cuts found that deprived areas of the West Midlands were being hit worse than others, the Labour Party has claimed.

Walsall is the 30th worst affected area with a loss of funding of £526 per person.

He said: "I oppose any cuts to council services."

"I was the only councillor to oppose the budget in February which implemented even more cuts. I am calling on councillors to oppose future cuts."

"At this rate there will be nothing left. There is no flesh left to cut - we will be stripped to the bone."

Stand

"We keep being told that cuts won't affect services. It makes you wonder what they were like before, if that is the case."

Referring to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, he added: "We have seen the Government take millions of pounds away from us and it is time we stand up to Eric Pickles."

"All councillors should oppose this. I was not elected by the people in my ward to deprive them of vital services."

"We have already seen scores of jobs also cut as a result of the Government's actions. I refuse to back further cuts. Another £80m will be devastating."

Council chiefs are yet to confirm which services will be hit or what jobs will be under threat but drastic measures are expected as the council looks to plug a £20m black hole for next year alone.

Award for project building a skilled future



Winners at the Walsall Works awards celebrate their achievements in helping to get young people back into training

AN INITIATIVE to help young people into training and employment in Walsall has been praised after it scooped a prestigious award for its work to tackle unemployment.

The Skills Centre, run by Walsall Housing Group, was awarded the 'Large Pre-Apprenticeship Employer' award at the annual Walsall Works Celebration Awards.

The centre is currently working with 61 apprentices in a variety of trades and has helped 1,500 people aged 16 to 24 since it was launched ten years ago. It helps with construction and green skills, offering a range of training courses from bricklaying to renewable energy.

The award recognises The Skills

Centre's work with Walsall Adult Community College (WACC) to deliver training to learners at the college's Construction Academy. The Skills Centre has also introduced WACC to major contractors, which has allowed some of the learners to secure workplace learning placements.

Apprenticeships

The Skills Centre is one of the training initiatives in the town to have helped nearly 135 youngsters start apprenticeships through the Walsall Council's multi-million pound Walsall Works scheme. A further 183 young people have been helped to start a pre-apprenticeship course since the launch in April last year.

Jane Preece, director of organisational development at WHG, said: "We are delighted to have won this award. It is testament to the hard work and innovation of the team at The Skills Centre."

"They have created a professional hub for young people to learn through courses, work placements and apprenticeships."

One young person to benefit from the training is 19-year-old apprentice Sam Law from Walsall. He spends four days a week on site with his employer, WHG contractor Jesspos, and one day working at The Skills Centre, where he and fellow apprentices benefit from workshops fully equipped with the latest in industry technology.

NEWS in brief

Catholics in town centre procession

CATHOLICS will take part in a procession of the Blessed Sacrament in the town centre on Sunday.

The procession starts at 3pm in Gallery Square and proceeds via Park Street to the Bridge and is being led by Archbishop of Birmingham, the Most Reverend Bernard Longley.

The event will reflect the ethnic diversity of Catholics in the Walsall area with contributions from the Indian, Polish and Filipino communities among others. Children from 13 Catholic primary schools who have received first holy communion.

Three before court over race protest

THREE men have appeared before Walsall magistrates accused of taking part in a racially motivated protest in the town.

Christopher Mills, aged 25, of Carbridge Crescent, Walsall, Gary Johnson, aged 28, of Dickens Road, Wolverhampton, and Ashley Stanton, aged 22, of Bickley Road, Walsall, pleaded not guilty to a charge of racially aggravated harassment but guilty to using threatening words. They will reappear on October 9.

Singing and acting at summer school

YOUNG singers, dancers and actors can take part in a summer school in Walsall.

Breakout Performing Arts will be holding the summer holiday workshop from August 12 to 16, from 9am to 3pm every day at the multi-million pound Performance Hub at the Walsall Campus of Wolverhampton University. The week will finish with a performance.

For more information call 07905831508 or visit www.breakoutschool.com

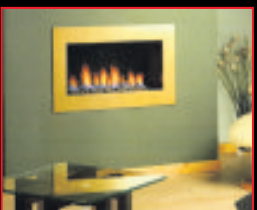
Cameras to keep watch at reserve

CCTV cameras have been installed at a Walsall beauty spot in a bid to tackle fly-tippers and thieves.

The long-awaited cameras have been put in place at Moorcroft Wood Local Nature Reserve, in Moxley, following a series of complaints about rubbish being dumped there. The move has been welcomed by campaigners.

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NEWS FEATURE

IN MY VIEW

WITH
MARK
ANDREWS

HOW depressing that even the Girl Guides has fallen victim to the fashionable mantra of 'inclusivity' and dropped all reference to God and country from the movement's traditional pledge.

The patriotic commitment to serving one's country has been replaced by one to the 'community'. New recruits will also pledge to "be true to myself and develop my beliefs". Who wrote this stuff? Carly Simon?

Perhaps we should be grateful they are not expected to affirm their belief in global warming.

All this, of course, is just what you might expect from an organisation which is now led by Julie Bentley, the former head of the Family Planning Association.

Bet she knows all about being prepared.

BAFFLED by the return of Joe Kinnear as director of football at Newcastle United, former Toon midfielder turned Twitter philosopher Joey Barton has labelled the goings-on at his old club as a 'circus sideshow'.

Now would this be the same Joey Barton whose idea of a Christmas party involves stubbing a cigar out in his teammates' eyes?

Apparently so. Other highlights of Mr Barton's career include breaking the leg of a pedestrian while driving his car, an altercation with a 15-year-old at a Bangkok Hotel, dropping his shorts at Everton fans at the end of a game, and putting his teammate Ousmane Dabo in hospital.

In 2008 he was jailed for six months after admitting common assault and affray, and in 2010 he was banned by the FA for violent conduct after punching Blackburn Rovers' Morten Gamst Pedersen in the ribs.

There was also the incident during a game at Aston Villa where he celebrated a goal by raising his arm in the air and pointing to his moustache. He explained that this was because he had won a bet which meant he could now shave off his moustache.

Of course it was. I mean what else could it have meant?

Not forgetting, of course, the incident last year, where he decided to round off the season in his own inimitable style.

After being sent off for elbowing Manchester City's Carlos Tévez in the face, he decided to voice his disquiet by kicking Sergio Agüero in the back of the knee and attempting to give Vincent Kompany a Glasgow kiss.

As he was dragged off the pitch by his former team-mate Micah Richards, he attempted to square-up to that other shrinking violet, Mario Balotelli.

He was subsequently banned for 12 games by the FA and fined £75,000 after being found guilty of three charges of violent conduct.

Newcastle United a circus show? They're rank amateurs, Joey.



Catherine, centre, in a Great Barr dance show in 1983



Early days on British TV with Georgie duo Ant and Dec



Cat with her husband comedian Patrick Kielty

Cat's perfect career as a star of American TV

Elizabeth Joyce looks at the rise of Cat Deeley, a Great Barr girl who is the toast of Tinseltown

SHE lives in a Beverly Hills mansion, graces the most A-list of red carpets and is held aloft as a fashion and beauty icon.

But it wasn't all that long ago that Cat Deeley was playing clarinet with Sandwell Youth Concert Band and enjoying bonfire night parties in the back garden of her Sutton Coldfield home.

Cat, or Catherine Elizabeth Deeley as she was known back then, grew up in a quiet country lane and attended Grove Vale Junior School and then Dartmouth High, both in Great Barr.

Now, she's the toast of Tinseltown.

It was 2006 that she jetted off to LA LA Land and has not looked back since.

A presenting gig for So You Think You Can Dance made her a household name in the States and the West Midlands-girl-done-good also landed jobs on American Idol and legendary breakfast TV show Good Morning America.

Shimmering

Her success was highlighted earlier this month when she stepped out on the red carpet of the third annual Critics' Choice Television Awards after being nominated for best presenter for So You Think You Can Dance, which she is now handling for the 10th series.

She made headlines at the event with her shimmering gold Monique Lhuillier dress and those famous blonde lockers, which have also nabbed her a lucrative deal with Pantene.

During her time in the States, Cat has also been romantically linked to Leonardo DiCaprio and had a long-term relationship with actor Jack Houston but it is comedian Patrick Kielty that won her heart. Check out her engagement



Radiant Cat at the television awards in Beverley Hills, California, this month

ring if you're in any doubt. And she and her hubby now live full time in her Beverly Hills mansion – and a family may be the next thing on the agenda after they tied the knot in Rome last year.

"Look, it took us 10 years to get this far, so don't rush me!" she recently said. "But yes, I do think at some stage or another we would like a family."

Cat, 36, spoke about her marriage for the first time when she recently appeared on Jimmy Fallon's US talk show.

"There had always been a bit of a

But for all the glitz and glamour of her life nowadays, she remembers her childhood in Sutton fondly, despite the fact she grew up as the only Albion fan in a family of Wolves supporters.

Growing up, her father Howard worked as a pattern maker for local car companies and her mother Jan worked in social security until Cat and brother Max were born.

She left Dartmouth High with nine A-grade GCSEs and a Grade 5 in clarinet.

When she finished at Bishop Vesey sixth form she had four A-levels in history, maths, general studies and English literature.

But her stunning good looks meant a career in modelling was almost inevitable.

She entered a modelling competition at The Clothes Show Live in Birmingham and was spotted by a booker for uber agency Storm, home to Kate Moss. Storm rebranded her as Cat and four years later she ventured into TV.

MTV soon latched on to her good looks and down-to-earth attitude and Cat went on to front a number of shows on the network, including MTV Amour, Stylisimo, Hitlist UK and MTV Select.

Morning

It was through MTV that Cat got one of her most well-known and best-loved gigs – starring alongside Ant and Dec on children's Saturday morning TV show, SM:TV Live.

Every week, more than two million people tuned in to see the madness unfold, with viewers going gaga for the likes of Wonky Donkey and Friends parody, Chums.

Cat moved on to host Stars In Their Eyes and Fame Academy alongside future hubby Patrick.

By now, she was a household name and the lure of America proved too much to ignore. Turned out it was the best decision of her life. Talk about the Cat that got the cream.

THROUGH THE YEARS

1983...

A COALMAN performed a back-breaking charity stunt for hospital patients by lugging a bag of coal almost the whole way from Wolverhampton to Cannock. John Tunncliffe, from Cannock, raised about £200 after completing the 11 mile journey in three-and-a-half hours.

TWO schoolmates were celebrating after coping top jobs in the West Midlands police force. Graham Jones and Richard Chidley were promoted to detective chief inspector and detective superintendent respectively.

BREWSTER the accident-prone mongrel was at it again after a leg injury led to yet another trip to the vets. The lovable scamp from Stourbridge cost just £3 but ran up more than £400 in vets bills during a nine month period.

1993...

WOLVERHAMPTON pensioners joined thousands of protesters from all over the country to lobby the government against proposed heating taxes. OAPs descended on London to lobby Parliament about plans to put VAT on heating bills.

A GRANDMOTHER from Wolverhampton celebrated scooping £800,000 on the football pools – thanks to advice from her 12-year-old grandson. Sixty-year-old Joan Wharton from Featherstone won the bounty after asking young Grant to pick some of her numbers.

A SCHEME to rid Wolverhampton's nightspots of violent bouncers was launched with the aim of improving the poor public image of door staff. The scheme required all 400 doormen working in the city to join a police and council-run registration programme and a training course.

2003...

AUDIENCES were left asking "Sir" for more after a village youth theatre group performed the musical Oliver in Brewod. The popular production was staged at the Jubilee Hall and featured 27 members aged between seven and 17.

WOLVERHAMPTON mayor's chauffeur Bernard Ralphs hung up his uniform for the last time after years of dedicated service. The 61-year-old from Tettenhall retired after spending nearly 33 years driving the city's civic heeds to official arrangements.

ANGRY residents in Wolverhampton were left with mountains of uncollected rubbish after hundreds of wheeled bins were left unemptied for a second time in two weeks. Overflowing bins lined the streets around Penn as crews continued to struggle with the council's new scheme.

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LETTERS

Town will not let extremists win

DARLASTON Town Hall provided an excellent venue for a historic event in the history of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Association Walsall as the community celebrated its centenary year in the UK. It was a great occasion for our town too.

As Walsall responds to the allegations that a home made bomb had been targeted at a mosque in Rutter Street, Walsall - which activated the council's Emergency Plan and caused considerable stress and inconvenience for local residents - what have we learned from the people whom want to create fear and violence?

Walsall people will not let extremists of any kind win over our choice for peace.

There is a warmth and welcome in Walsall for people from all over the

world. We have shared the building, development and resources in our town across all faiths and religions.

Walsall is a town of hard-working people whom care for family, friends and neighbours. With such an open and friendly community we have nothing to fear from the extremists.

Fear and violence only threaten our communities when we fail to encourage education, information and engagement with all our inhabitants.

Austerity is a huge threat as we all struggle to make ends meet in ever demanding economic circumstances but, elections can assist everyone respond to the failure of our local political elite. Democracy beats the bomb every time.

On our streets and in our everyday lives Walsall has a proud history of wel-

coming new communities. The success of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Association, who have also suffered threats and persecution from extremists, is a real and encouraging story of how local people have discovered that working and living together brings greater understanding and opportunity to our communities in Walsall.

Listening to the many voices across our town whom have condemned the ignorance and racism of extremists we know we have nothing to fear as common sense, respect and unity will never give way to, or fail to keep vigilant against, the menace of extremists, their poisonous propaganda and malevolent actions.

COUNCILLOR DOUG JAMES
Horton Street
Walsall

Praise for carnival's organisers

I WOULD like to give a shout out through your newspaper if I may for the organisers of Willenhall Carnival this year. We had a great family afternoon out and although the afternoon was interrupted by showers, it didn't dampen the spirits. It was a lovely atmosphere.

I know they work tirelessly all year round to keep this great traditional event going. Well done to all of you.

WILL MORGAN
Willenhall

Floral success

A BIG thank you to all who helped to make our Flower Festival at Holy Trinity Church, Short Heath, such a success. So many people helped but special thanks to Mrs Chris Bullingham who co-ordinated the whole event.

RC BUTT
Buckingham Drive
Willenhall

LETTERS to the Editor

POST

Walsall Chronicle, Chronicle
Editorial, 51-53 Queen Street,
Wolverhampton
WV1 1ES

E-MAIL

walsallchronicle@
expressandstar.co.uk

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number of the writer. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

Sad to lose Carl's show

IT IS extremely sad to hear the news about the axing of Carl Chinn's long-running BBC WM show, which he bravely announced on air on Sunday - end of an era in Birmingham.

It is a great pity one of the management team haven't had the guts to come on air and explain the decision to all of his loyal listeners - the licence fee payers who pay the salaries of everybody at BBC Radio WM. At least former controller Keith Beech used to come on air once a month on Ed Doolan's show and explain the reasons for his decisions at BBC Radio WM. I am certainly going to complain about BBC WM's decision and I hope everybody else does also. The last five minutes of Carl's show was extremely moving indeed and couldn't have been easy for him.

To take a show off like this, which is one of the most popular in the region about the history of our region, has to be one of the weirdest decisions ever made by a controller of this great station. The excuse that Carl's show costs the station too much to broadcast is just plain ridiculous. Come on Mr Controller of WM, talk to us the loyal listeners who have enjoyed Carl's show for 19 plus years and want it back.

IAN PAYNE
Thornbury Road
Walsall

Cut the council

IN LINE with the old adage that every little helps, one way of cutting back on the pure waste of money in Walsall is to reduce the number of councillors from the current 60 to 40, from three to two per ward.

The total savings would be considerable.

If managed properly this reduction in the number of councillors would not have a major effect on how the borough is run as a number of committees could be reduced in size.

For example, the planning committee currently has 20 members, compared to Sandwell 16 and Wolverhampton just 12. This change could be effected from next May by simply allowing 20 councillors to resign and not holding an election. This in itself would also save a considerable sum of money.

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NEWS

Images released in hunt for bus attacks suspect



The bus attack suspect is pictured in a dark-coloured cap



The assault suspect is seen in a white top in this image

CCTV images of a man wanted in connection with two bus attacks in Walsall have been released by police as they said: "We need to get this man off the streets."

The latest pictures were taken from on-board cameras after a second woman came forward.

Two images had already been released following a previous assault on May 9, which police say is linked.

Patrols have been stepped up in the wake of the attacks and officers continue to speak to witnesses.

Detective Inspector Annie O'Grady, from the public protection unit at West Midlands Police, said "We need to get this man off the streets and I want to

hear from anyone who recognises the person in the CCTV images. The two young women were understandably left extremely shaken.

"If you know who he is, or have seen him in the Walsall area, please call us and let us know as soon as possible.

Witnesses

"I'm also keen to hear from any witnesses on either of the two buses who have not yet spoken to us."

She said the latest attack involved a 29-year-old woman who was approached by a man as she travelled on the number 529 towards Walsall, as the bus passed along Wolverhampton Road West in Bentley.

He sat down next to her at around 12.45pm on June 12 and touched her

inappropriately. The victim then got off the bus and called police to report the attack.

The earlier assault happened to a 17-year-old girl as she travelled on the 997 bus along Lichfield Road on May 9. She was approached by a man who hugged her and kissed her.

The man, who got on the bus in Walsall town centre, then left the bus as it stopped in Lichfield Road near Pelsall and ran off. It happened between 7.40pm and 8.50pm.

Both victims describe the offender as Asian, aged between 25 and 30 and around 5ft 4ins tall. He was of slim to medium build and had jet black hair. The man spoke in broken English.

Anyone with information is urged to call police on 101 or 0800 555 111.

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NEWS

Game is no laugh for family as bill arrives

A 10-year-old schoolboy racked up a £600 bill in three hours on a free to download iPhone game.

Lee Walters downloaded the Hay Day app on his mum's old iPhone and paid £19 a time to buy virtual diamonds and gold coins. He innocently clicked on the 'buy now' option which appeared more than 12 times an hour - landing mother Katharyne, 42, with a whopping £613 bill.

Katharyne, who runs a fireplace business, was in control of her son's Apple password but believes he was able to splash the cash because the phone kept it saved for 15 minutes.

She warned parents to monitor their children's usage of iPhone apps to ensure they are not unwittingly racking up monster bills.

Children

Katharyne, from Streetly, said: "I'm not a stupid person but this has made me feel really stupid. I'm devastated."

"I've been in a terrible state. I knew straight away what was happening."

"It's a child's game that attracts children. It could happen to so many people. These people are designing these but I wouldn't allow children to have anything like that if they can spend money on it."

"It happened when we were away on business and he was staying with my sister. As soon as I saw the emails coming through I cancelled my card and got in touch with Apple."

"What they don't tell you is if you download a free app, your phone holds the password for 15 minutes."

The game Hay Day is a farming



Ten-year-old Lee Walters ran up a bill of over £600 playing a game on his mother's old iPhone

experience app where children are encouraged to harvest crops, build bakeries and rear animals. It is free to play but the iTunes store warns that game items can be purchased for real money.

Katharyne, who lives with her partner Paul Lammond, 49, son Lee and daughters, aged 16 and 18, added: "Lee had only had the phone for six months and has never done anything like that before. He plays other games and he always knew to ask and I drilled it into him that he could only have free apps."

Apple have now refunded Katharyne the money and reminded parents to use the restrictions on the game to stop unwanted purchases.

A spokesman for Apple said: "All iOS devices (iPad, iPhone and iPod touch) have built in parental controls that give parents and guardians the ability to restrict access to content. Our parents' guide to iTunes details the steps and measures parents and guardians can take to make sure younger players have access to the right content."

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NEWS

Hopes for 350 new jobs pinned on derelict site



Derelict land which will become site of the Darlaston Enterprise Zone at Reservoir Place, creating around 350 jobs

MORE than 350 jobs are expected to be created by 2017 under plans to transform derelict land next to the M6 as part of the Black Country Enterprise Zone.

Hundreds more jobs are expected to follow as part of the multi-million pound Phoenix 10 project.

The land will need major reclamation work because of contamination, while dozens of mineshafts are to be filled in or dug out. It comes amid concerns over spiralling costs to redevelop the old James Bridge IMI Copper Works site.

Walsall Council has stepped in to lead the project after private sector developer Parkhill Estates pulled out at the end of last year.

Estimated

Parkhill had estimated the transformation of the 37-acre plot would cost £18 million but the price is expected to soar. Money will need to be borrowed by the council and then repaid through business rates.

Coal recovered during the clean-up of the contaminated site will also be sold off to help fund the scheme.

Work is due to begin in early 2015. The Phoenix 10 site is one of the key parts of the enterprise zone, which

includes 14 sites in Darlaston and five in Wolverhampton – including the i54 site at Fordhouses where Jaguar Land Rover is building a £500m engine plant.

Three thousand new jobs across the Black Country are anticipated.

The authority says the exact number of jobs on the IMI site will be dependent on which firms become established on the site.

Walsall Council head of regeneration Simon Tranter said: "There are very few sites of this size located adjacent to a motorway in the region."

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NEWS

Brave Renee gets award for shielding baby sister

A CHILD who was held hostage in her own home while protecting her family has received a police award for her bravery

Aged only seven, Renee Bolter shielded her baby sister as a man carried out a prolonged horrific assault on her mother at their Walsall home in 2011.

Her family's ordeal lasted throughout the night as her attacker held them against their will and threatened to set their home on fire.

Escape

Although they were being closely watched by their assailant, Renee had the sense of mind to hide her mother's mobile phone and, at 6am the following day, the family were able to escape.

As police arrived the man locked himself in and soon afterwards smoke began billowing from a first floor window. Police and firefight-

ers forced their way into the property, where he was arrested and is currently serving a prison sentence.

In nominating Renee, now nine-years-old, for her award, Detective Constable Tara Atkinson said: "Renee showed a great deal of bravery in preventing her little sister getting hurt and to hide the mobile phone showed maturity way beyond her years. As part of her award she has received a

Renee Bolter with Chief Constable Chris Sims and Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner Yvonne Mosquito gift voucher, which she has chosen to use to buy toys for herself and her sister."

Proud

Renee's mother, Katie Bolter said: "Renee has made me very proud, she acted very grown up."

"If Renee had not used her initiative and not acted so

diligently we may not be here to celebrate this great act of bravery."

Renee received a Chief Constable's Commendation, the highest honour the force can bestow, from Chief Constable Chris Sims at a ceremony at the force's Tally Ho! centre in Edgbaston on June 20.

Busy weekend as cyclists head to the High Peak

WALSALL Family Cycling Group resort to four wheels on Saturday to get to the High Peak in Derbyshire for a Tissington Trails ride starting from the car park at Friden at 11am.

It will last about six hours. For further details contact 0786 6028154

On Sunday the family ride starts from Bloxwich Parish Church at 9am and will head to the Vineyards Cafe at Half-

penny Green, near Wombourne, for morning coffee, and then on to the Harbour Inn at Arley for lunch. Total distance 68 miles. Contact ride leader Dave Yates on 07941 452738

Sunday's easier alternative sets off from C&G at Anchor Road, Aldridge, at 9.30am to the Colville Arms at Lullington for lunch. Distance around 40 miles.

See www.chasecycling.co.uk for further details about these and several other cycling events in the area.

It's first class service as rail staff create garden



Network Rail staff take part in a volunteer charity leave day to improve the outdoor area at Walsall Resource Centre

NETWORK Rail workers got their hands dirty to create a new outdoor area at a centre in Walsall used by disabled youngsters.

They offered their services at Walsall Resource Centre one day last week to create the garden, which features a playground, and wildlife and 'seaside' areas.

The centre in Pool Street, Chuckery, is run by the charity Action for Children. Claire Cahill, children's services manager at Action for Children, said: "Thanks to Network Rail we're able to

provide a fantastic new outside environment for the children, young people and families that we support so they can enjoy their time here even more.

Grateful

"We're very grateful to them for making our service even better."

The team of 11 staff raised £4,500 for the work and spent a whole day creating the new area as part of the 'reverse leadership' scheme, which saw senior executives do the groundwork under the leadership of graduates and apprentices.

Martin Arter, Network Rail spokesman, said: "Walsall Resource Centre, its staff and the families it supports needed and wanted an improved outdoor recreational area - something that we've been glad to deliver."

"Our talented young graduates and apprentices planned, designed and organised the makeover, and the senior leadership of Network Rail provided the labour-force for the day."

Walsall Resource Centre provides support services and short breaks that reduce family stress.

NEWS

Residents furious over vandal attacks on cars



With a 'keyed' car are Countess Street residents and the general secretary of the neighbourhood watch Imran Araf **ANGRY residents in Walsall claim hundreds of cars have been damaged by vandals.**

Palfrey and Caldmore Neighbourhood Watch has sent out 'a rallying call to action', claiming the area has been plagued by repeated car vandalism.

Chairman of the group, Mohammed Rafiq, says more than 500 people have been affected by the damage over the past decade.

"Residents have suffered years of criminal damage to vehicles, including scratched paintwork, dents to body-

work, door mirrors knocked off, screws placed under tyres and damaged brickwork to properties," Mr Rafiq said. "We want those responsible put before the courts."

Insurance

"Residents didn't claim on their insurance when the damage was caused and paid for it out of their own pockets. But when people came to renew their insurance they found premiums had gone up drastically. Some went up threefold due to all the damage and bad area rating."

"The victims of these crimes are hard-working families who have lawfully parked their vehicles outside of their homes expecting their vehicles to be safe. Someone out there knows who is responsible for this and I would urge them to come forward immediately."

Mr Rafiq said roads affected included Milton Street, Countess Street, Earl Street, Thelma Street, Whitehall Road and Wednesbury Road.

The watch group meet on Monday at 1pm at The Small Street Centre in Corporation Street, Caldmore.

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SALLY 37 blonde blue eyed bombshell who loves life, music, letting my hair down, looking for similar flirty guy for enjoy TLC and life. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 405203 ☺

PAULINE, passionate, intelligent, discreet married lady seeks discreet special man of any age, call for more info. Tel No: 0905 002 1956 Box 339087

WIDOW young hearted 70's, N/S, likes reading, concerts, gardening, meals out, WLTW younger gentleman with similar interests. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 404177

MARIA 38, blonde, 5ft 5ins, caring, likes nights in/out, seeks caring male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 329319 ☺

SHAZ 33 easygoing voluptuous black female with lovely smile and personality to match, loves music, keeping fit and looking good. WLTW appreciative guy Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 404819 ☺

62YR old female, widowed, small, slim, attractive, kind, outgoing, likes meals out, dancing, holidays, nights in, seeking professional gent. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 394106 ☺

BLONDE attractive educated lady 50, young minded, seeks professional tall male, 45-55 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 391818 ☺

WOMAN 55yrs old, N/S, size 14, likes animals, nature, reading, TV, quiet life, seeks man 45-55, N/S for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 404447 ☺

BLACK female 32yrs, 38dd, very curvy, sensual and looking for discreet fun with no strings or complications, any age, looks or status. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 405269 ☺

DISCREET kind man sought by married lady, must be discreet and reliable as am I. ACA. Tel No: 0905 002 1957 Box 355785

GALE looking for old fashioned man with old fashioned values to sweep me off my feet, enjoy adult fun times and maybe even more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 405259 ☺

CHRISTINA 38 very pretty petite trainee nurse looking for N/S male companionship to enjoy meals/drinks out, leading to more maybe. Age/looks and status unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 405243 ☺

FUN loving lady, outgoing, honest, caring, likes socialising seeks older male, 50-70. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 383325 ☺

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NEWS

Martial arts champion kicks off youth project

A MARTIAL arts champion from Walsall has hung up his competition gloves to start a youth project in Cannock.

Harvey Harra, a former undefeated British and Commonwealth kickboxing champion, launched Lionheart Kids Martial Arts after deciding to give back to the community.

He teaches kickboxing and other techniques to children aged between four and 16 at the Ultimate Training Centre, Wolverhampton Road, together with current British Mixed Martial Arts champion Tim Wilde, judo international and unbeaten MMA fighter Jack Owen and their coach, Jon Roberts.

Mr Harra, aged 32, of Broad Lane, Bloxwich, said: "It is time for me to put something back.

Exciting

"I have been working closely with Cannock's UTC fight team, who are renowned for their abilities, and I shall now be running the kids' martial arts classes.

"The Lionheart Kids Martial Arts is all about building children up, making them confident and sociable while teaching them a disciplined martial arts system.

"The classes are fun and exciting and they encourage healthy exercise and working together as a team."

"The four-man team we have put together has over 80 years of combined martial arts experience and this, coupled with the best martial arts training facility in our area, enables us to offer the very best in kids martial arts."

Classes are held on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays.

For more details, call 01543 469964.



Some members of the Cannock-based Lionhearts Kids Martial Arts Club

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KIND romantic female, 50, seeking a male to talk, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 368429 ☺

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28YR old brunette, seeks fun loving, adventurous male for relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 380918 ☺

SUSIE fun loving mum with GSOH seeks gentle considerate to get to know better. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 404627 ☺

JANE 48yrs West Midlands, likes meals out, cinema, theatre, looking for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 403949

DAWN attractive, slim female, 45, N/S, no ties, WLTW tall fit male with get up and go attitude towards life. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 375825

48YR old attractive female seeking local fun maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 403947

LITTLE bit nice and definitely a little bit naughty! Imaginative curly blonde seeks male for kisses and cuddles. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 363428 ☺

SLIM fit, bubbly female can't wait to meet a tall, slim, fit, mature male who thinks he can keep up. ACA. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 367066 ☺

SINGLE MEN

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PHIL 55, divorced, 5ft 10ins, slim, OHAC, seeks female, 18 plus for discreet adult fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 401875

MALE 45, 5ft 9ins, slim, caring, loyal, GSOH, WLTW female, 35-45 for friendship/LTR. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 402493

GARY 39 seeks female 30-50 for fun, maybe relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 404487 ☺

TALL blue eyed 49yr old gent, N/S looking for soul mate, slim lady with no ties and plenty of love to give and receive, is that you? Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 404121 ☺

SINGLE male 59, no ties, honest, loyal, serene nature, seeks mature female with the view to becoming lifetime soul mates. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 404527 ☺

GENUINE male, 54, own home, seeks female, any age for discreet fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 368871 ☺

MALE 39, 6ft 2ins, honest, loyal, caring nature, seeks similar female with view to permanent, loving relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 400703

DAVE genuine guy, 6ft, black hair, blue eyes, medium build, likes sports, gardening, music, seeks female with GSOH and genuine. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 388372

MAURICE 50's, seeking N/S female for nights out, friendship and maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 400425

STRICTLY come dancing. Male 52, trendy, honest, caring, down to earth, fun loving, seeks petite lady, 45-54. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 397163

MALE 50, fit, friendly, down to earth, broadminded, seeks bored female for discreet fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 372407

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PATRICK 60's, single, sensual, likes sports, music, reading, seeks lady friend to share evenings/weekend meetings together. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 396053

HANDSOME attractive, fit, professional trucker, 38, WLTW attractive, honest, caring lady/mum, 31-45 for LTR. Colour unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 219790 ☺

BROADMINDED 42yr old male, GSOH, caring, loving good personality seeks female for fun friendship, relationship and adult fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 404623 ☺

JOE 45 attractive medical professional, GSOH, looking for the 50 shades experience with likeminded lady for fun and games. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 404639 ☺

41YR old male, 6ft, dark hair, likes cosy nights in and good times out, seeks female to share good times with, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 369663 ☺

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NEWS

Maud's 100th birthday



Maud Wallis celebrates her 100th birthday at Delves Court nursing home, with daughter Sylvia Bullivant. WHEN she was born the First World War hadn't even begun. Now Maud Wallis, of Walsall, has celebrated her 100th birthday. A party was held at Delves Court nursing home to mark the milestone with family, friends and staff.

She was raised in Willenhall as one of four and was a pupil at Albion Road School. After leaving school Maud worked at Tonk's Factory and also Josiah Parkes in the town until she retired in 1980, aged 67.

Now a widow, she was married to Arthur for more than 50 years after meeting him when she was 16. They enjoyed cycling into their early 70s and were able to celebrate a Golden Wedding anniversary before he died in 1991.

Humour

The great-grandmother of one has been a resident at Delves Court in Walstead Road since the autumn and a celebration was held to mark her birthday.

She was joined by daughter Sylvia for a buffet and enjoyed a performance from the Whitehall School Choir who helped give a birthday message.

Senior care assistant Mandy Timmins said: "We had a big party with her family and residents so it was a great get together. She is very kind and she has got a wicked sense of humour and she keeps us on our toes."

Social care users face a transport subsidy cut

A CONSULTATION is to be launched over plans to make people who receive social care in Walsall pay their own transport costs.

Walsall Council is proposing to pull the plug on subsidies for people who use community-based transport services as part of cost-cutting measures. Up to 260 people could be affected by the move, which would save around £100,000 a year.

They would be expected to pay for the cost of transport out of their benefits.

Councillor Barbara McCracken, Walsall's social care boss, said: "Walsall Council does a great deal to help those on benefits and we provide really good services to help them."

"This affects a small number of people so the general public at large do not need to be unnecessarily worried. We continue to do all we can to support those on benefits."

Walsall residents who receive care get personal budget allowances, which takes into account their disability-related needs and this would then include transport, under the plans.

Service users are currently charged £2 a journey and last week generated £102,000 - less than one third of operating costs of £324,000.

The authority believes

transport is an everyday expense and should not be met by the taxpayer.

A council report said: "A communication and consultation plan has been developed to ensure clear and consistent messages are delivered in a timely manner enabling them to understand the proposals and share their views."

It comes as the town hall revealed it needs to make cuts of £80m over the next five years. Chiefs are yet to confirm which services will be hit or what jobs will be under threat but drastic measures are expected as the council looks to plug a £20m black hole for next year alone (see page 5).

The council has been hit by further Government cuts to the tune of £16.5m with rising prices and changes to the welfare system also hitting the public purse.

by Rob Gollgedge

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NEWS

Diamond day



Leslie and Audrey Barratt, who met at work, celebrate their diamond wedding anniversary

THEY were tipped to tie the knot by staff at the factory in Walsall where they met – and now Leslie and Audrey Barratt are celebrating their diamond wedding anniversary.

The couple, both from Walsall, met at an engineering factory in Walsall where Mr Barratt's bride-to-be worked in the booking office.

Mr Barratt, aged 82, had only just left the RAF when he went to apply for a job as a tool maker. Mrs Barratt, 80, said: "I remember him turning up and my boss said I would marry him one day. Leslie got the job and we soon made friends."

The couple married around two years later at St Michaels Church, Caldmore.

Shining

"It was a lovely day for a wedding and the sun was shining. It was the perfect day," she said.

They had a meal at the Crown and Anchor pub in Caldmore before going on a caravan honeymoon in Rhyl, North Wales.

Mr Barratt continued working as a tool maker for 50 years before retiring and Mrs Barratt worked in a post office and in a transport office.

The couple have three children and two grandchildren.



The Barratts' wedding day

Call for new crossing on busy route

IMPROVED safety measures are being demanded along a busy Walsall route after a teenager suffered head injuries when he was hit by a lorry.

Residents along Bescot Road, Walsall, are calling for a pedestrian crossing to be installed amid fears there could be a fatal accident.

by Craig Hughes

They say there have been a number of crashes along the main route with the latest accident seeing a 15-year-old knocked off his bike on June 18.

The teenager, who is believed to be from Pleck and a pupil at Wood Green Academy in Wednesbury, was taken to Walsall Manor Hospital.

Injuries

Residents in Bescot Road say a pedestrian crossing needs to be installed to reduce further accidents.

Father-of-five Shabir Hussain was one of the first on the scene after the crash near to the Slaters Lane junction.

He has lived along the road, which is a main link between junction nine of the M6 at Wednesbury towards Pleck Road, for the last eight years.

Mr Hussain said: "As long as I have been here there

have been half a dozen accidents.

"We haven't got any pedestrian crossings and it is a big issue."

"Any law-abiding resident or family member here would fear for the safety of young ones, the elderly and those that are frail crossing this road."

Kiran Vadukul lives opposite where the accident happened and been a resident in the road for 24 years.

The 54-year-old said: "There have been a few accidents along here, there is a lot of motorway traffic."

Walsall Council transport chief, Councillor Adrian Andrew, said: "We're not aware of any requests for a pedestrian crossing in Bescot Road. There is a pedestrian refuge on Bescot Road already but we'll be happy to listen to residents if they have concerns."

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Below are just a few of our recommended businesses. To find out more about them and other local gems visit www.thebestof.co.uk/walsall

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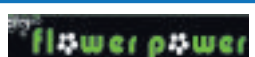
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NEWS

Tasha beats thousands to reach singing finals



A SONGBIRD from Norton Canes has only a few weeks to prepare herself to sing to a crowd of thousands of people at London's O2 arena after getting through to the finals of a national competition.

Tasha Blundell has made it to the last stage of the Teen Star singing competition, beating off thousands of hopefuls.

The 13-year-old, of Jackson Close, will be competing in the 13 to 15-year-old category on July 7.

The Chase Terrace Technology College pupil, who goes by the stage name Tasha Jerawan, has previously performed to raise money towards Rosie's Helping Hands which raises money in memory of the Aldridge teenager Rosie Ross, and also the Mayor of Walsall's charity appeal.

She said: "I'm really excited. I can't wait. I've chosen my song and I'll be doing a reworked version of These Days by Maverick Sabre. I've changed it to more of a soul song."

Prouder

"I've had some great feedback from judges in the past. It puts me on a massive high. I feel like I'm on cloud nine."

The youngster had to perform on four separate occasions to get to the final and won the regional heats for Liverpool, Manchester and the West Midlands at Huddersfield.

Her father, project manager Steve, 38, said: "I couldn't be prouder. She gives 110 per cent to her singing and her school work."

"She's awesome. Her friends and family will be going down to watch her in the finals."

"We didn't even know she could sing until she was six and she was asked by a teacher to get up in church and sing a Christmas song. Since then, she's entered lots of talent competitions."

The youngster will also be performed during an Armed Forces Day event in Nottingham on June 29 and at Brownhills Music Festival on August 17.

Tasha Jerawan Blundell has sung her way to the Teen Star finals

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CLUB NEWS

Shoe shop visit led to career

BONEY HAY AND CHASE TERRACE W1

IRIS Reynolds gave an amusing talk. First Manageress with 500 Men.

She was born in West Bromwich and when she left school at 14 her father wanted her to work in the offices of the local brewery but she had other ideas - learning shorthand and typing at college.

Eventually he capitulated and while Iris enjoyed her time there, a visit to Dolcis in Birmingham to buy shoes changed her career direction. She thought what a lovely place to work, the staff were so polite, nothing too much trouble and such beautiful shoes.

After mentioning this to a member of staff in college, she was given a letter of recommendation to take to the main Dolcis shop.

She turned up for the interview in gymslip and white blouse and was taken on as a junior sales assistant and so began her training, quite strict in those days.

All Iris's working life was spent with Dolcis and after working her way up to supervisor, a post she held for 16 years, she was summoned to head office in 1969 and offered the post of manageress of the Erdington branch - the only female in charge, all of the other 500 branches had a manager.

In 1971 she moved to a new branch at West Bromwich, and when this closed in 1988 she retired at the age of 52.

Friendship links renewed by visit



Friendship visit for members of Wolverhampton Sorooptimists to Colchester

SOROPTIMIST International (Wolverhampton) renewed their friendship link with Colchester and District club, when four members joined it and many guests over the Spring Bank holiday for four days.

The celebratory meal was held on June 1 and the guests received a warm welcome from club president Beryl Amy and Mayor of Colchester.

The rich and varied cultural history of the town and area was shared with guests and club members. Highlights including a walking around Harwich, lead by The Harwich Society; a tour of Colchester Town Hall and the Beth Chatto garden; ending

WOLVERHAMPTON SOROPTIMISTS

with a trip to Cambridge with guided tour of the city and time for individuals to look around before heading back to Colchester.

The after dinner speaker in June was club member Maggie Reardon, who spoke about her career as a solicitor.

Certainly for the club, the importance of making a will was emphasised and in particular that each person should arrange a Lasting Power of Attorney, whether married, in a partnership or, single.

Running tale of charity work

THE speaker for June was 'The Running Paramedic' Ray Edensor on his involvement in the Dreams Come True charity.

He told of his years running marathons to raise money for terminally ill children and their families, which enabled them to fulfil their dreams.

During a five-year period

ETCHING HILLS W1

he raised £500,000 for the charity and on one occasion ran 26 marathons in 26 days.

A collection was made at the end of the evening towards the charity.

The members were also introduced to Guy Corbett-Marshall, from the Staffordshire Wildlife Trust, who

came to collect a cheque for The Wolsley Centre.

The donation will be used to help them protect and enhance the wildlife and wild places of Staffordshire.

The meeting also agreed to support the fight to save Stafford Hospital and attend a public meeting at Lea Hall Social Club, Rugeley.

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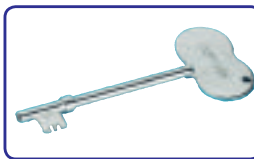
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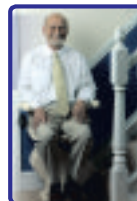
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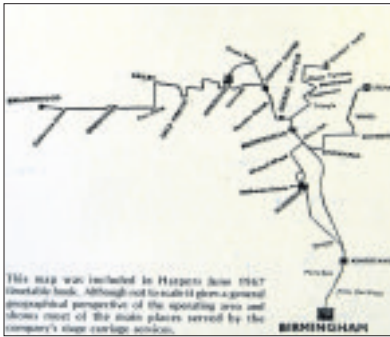
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MEMORY LANE



A picture from the 1960s of Harpers bus in Armitage Road, Rugeley



A map of the routes the Harpers bus used to take



A bus, date unknown, in a now pedestrianised area of Cannock town centre



Ex-driver Paul Roberts with his book on Harpers Buses

Ex-driver tells tale of his life on the buses

A BUS fanatic who gave up a career as a secondary school teacher to drive double-deckers is ensuring his passion lives on.

Paul Roberts has retained his love for Harpers buses and their distinctive green livery. Once the biggest private bus operator in Staffordshire, the company put Heath Hayes on the map as bus enthusiasts from around the UK visited its headquarters.

Mr Roberts, aged 64, has now published a hardback history of Harpers featuring photographs he took during his years with the firm.

He was teaching science and geography at Springfield Secondary Boys School in Wolverhampton in 1970 when he applied to become

By Marion Brennan

a part-time bus conductor with Harpers to supplement his teaching salary. After a 10-minute interview, he was told to report for duty the next day to conduct on the Bishops Wood route. Three years later, he gave up teaching to go full-time.

"Some people like railways, I like buses," he said. "I left a good job but I loved buses so much, it wasn't a difficult decision. I never looked back after leaving teaching."

"It was like On The Buses at times. I remember one chap, who was a bit the worse for wear, losing his false teeth on a late-night bus to Aldridge."

"I loved being out on the road and that meant not only taking people to work and school but on days out and holidays because the company also operated tours to the

coast." The former Dudley College student, who lived in Paget Road, Wolverhampton, and Ajax Close, Great Wyrley, stayed with Harpers until it was taken over by Midland Red in 1974 and continued under the new operator until his wife's job took them to Leicester in 1986.

The book focuses on the different buses and the routes covered, with a section devoted to the farewell trip and the early years under Midland Red, forerunner to Arriva.

Harpers won the right to operate buses into Birmingham in 1965. From Bishops Wood, the route went through Brewwood, Gailey, Cannock, Heath Hayes, Chasevater, Brownhills and Aldridge. Some buses also went to Boney Hay and Lichfield.

The book is printed by Irwell Press who can be contacted on 01525 876888.



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*The "from" price and price bands vary for each show – see brochure for details. Single room supplements apply.

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Please read brochure/web page for full information plus terms and conditions

NEWS

Stepping up to challenge



Tracey Hulse, front, with colleagues at Brownhills Tesco store who took part in the charity challenge

STAFF from a Tesco store in Brownhills has put their best foot forward to raise money for Diabetes UK.

Most workers stepped up to the challenge of completing 90,000 steps in just two days all in aid of the charity, but impressed even themselves by doubling the total using pedometers and gym equipment donated by Fitness First.

As they climbed the never ending stairs, customers, friends and family donated hundreds of pounds towards their total of £1,200. Manager Nicole Brittain said: "All the staff were really looking forward to the challenge despite the ambitious distance, but we were all very happy with the result."

Tracey Hulse, better services manager, said: "The response from the public was brilliant, but I think most of the staff are still sore from the challenge."

The charity is Tesco's chosen cause and the store has many more activities planned to raise even more funds for the charity.

Football yob Saddlers fan in three-year match ban

A FOOTBALL hooligan who taunted opposition fans has been banned from attending matches for three years.

Saddlers supporter Joshua Jessop ran onto the Banks's Stadium pitch after Walsall FC's final home game of the season against Bury in April, magistrates were told.

The 18-year-old was said to be part of a 20-strong 'risk group' of Walsall fans known to provoke disorder with opposition fans.

Last week, Walsall Magistrates' Court heard the defendant had previously been cautioned by the police and had signed a Football Behaviour Contract.

Hope of new jobs package

A GROWING Willenhall business that provides mail services for companies offering internet sales is planning to create five jobs with a move to bigger premises.

Post 'n' Packages has outgrown its current offices in Ezekiel Lane, Short Heath, and hopes to move to a 2,500 sq ft unit at Planetary Road.

Managing director Resham Singh Atti, who founded the business in 2008 and initially ran it from his home in Blakenall, said that the move depended on getting planning permission for extra office space at the new site. "If we get the go-ahead we hope to be able to move in about a month's time," he said.

Mr Atti said that turnover had been doubling each year and Post 'n' Packages was on course to reach £1.25 million in the current year.

"We currently employ seven and with the move will be creating at least five new jobs within the first year. I would aim to take on another five in the following year," he added.

Prosecuting, Mrs Jayne Yeomans said the Well Lane resident ran onto the pitch after the final whistle and started to taunt Bury fans: He was arrested on May 16.

Mrs Yeomans said police and the crown were requesting to ban Jessop from football matches as he had a record of being involved in trying to provoke disorder.

Wolves

The court was told he was part of a group of 20 Walsall fans who had been involved with trouble at various games.

Against Wolves he and other thugs chanted songs about fan Tom Kirwan who was murdered in a Wolverhampton nightclub last year, Mrs Yeomans said.

He admitted a single public order offence for the disorder against Bury.

Mr David Nash, defending, did not oppose the football match ban.

Magistrates banned Jessop from all football games for three years and fined him £110. He was also told to pay £85 court costs and a £20 victim surcharge.

Daniel Arrowsmith, 22, of Douglas Davies Close, Willenhall, also appeared. He admits a single public order offence linked with trouble after the Saddlers' final home game. He will appear again before magistrates at Walsall on August 7.

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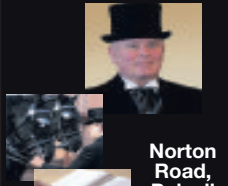
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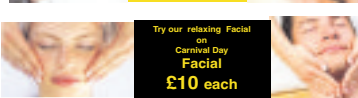
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FOCUS ON ALDRIDGE

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Delight at revamp and tidy up at The Croft

LONG-AWAITED improvements to a park in Aldridge have been completed after a campaign by residents.

The Croft has had work including new footpaths to the children's play area, improved pedestrian access across Rookery Lane, new benches, litter bins, picnic tables and extra signs.

More than £70,000 was invested in the park after a campaign by Aldridge Croft Community Group to secure necessary funding. This came from sources including a Big Lottery Community Spaces grant, public donations, regeneration funding and grant from the area partnership.

Bob Cook, chairman of Aldridge Croft Community Group, said: "We are pleased with the support from Aldridge residents and from local community groups, particularly the involvement from our schools."

Day of family fun planned

ORGANISERS of a family fun day in Aldridge are preparing for the event next month.

Stalls from organisations all over Walsall will be on show at the Aldridge Family Fit 'n' Fun Day at Aldridge Community Centre, Anchor Meadow on July 13 from 12pm until 4pm.

Transport museum's historic fleet gets a permanent home

THE DIRECTORS of Aston Manor Transport Museum outlined the future of the attraction following a decision by Walsall Council to allow them a permanent home.

The museum, which has seen three moves in as many years, is celebrating the fact that they now have a permanent home in Shenstone Drive, Aldridge, after the council agreed change of use at the industrial unit where they are now based.

The group were originally based in Birmingham until a wrangle with the city council forced a move.

Director Alan Bishop said the group will continue to offer runs out in their fleet of historic vehicles. But they also hope to expand the collection with the help of the local volunteer restoration team.

Experience.

He added: "We are a working museum and give people a chance to experience riding on an old bus."

"We hope to develop more restoration work as we have a really good team of skilled

Report by Tom Mason

workers from Aldridge and the surrounding area."

The museum will now open every weekend and one day during the week.

This will allow visitors to see the unique collection of old passenger vehicles.

"We are quite confident about our future now that we have planning permission but it means we've still got a lot of work ahead," said Mr Bishop.

The group now need to raise more than £50,000 and secure a long-term rental agreement.

They will kick-off their bid to raise the funds with the site's first official opening to the public as a dedicated transport museum on July 9.



Pictured at St Thomas Playgroup are, from left, student Jade Meegan with manager Rachel Taylor, Sean and Karen Ross from charity Rosie's Helping Hands along with infants enjoying the refurbished garden at the St Thomas Close nursery

Helping Hands in a garden

CHILDREN and staff at a playgroup in Aldridge have thanked a local charity for their help in the funding their new garden.

The old garden outside the playgroup in St Thomas Close, Aldridge, has undergone an amazing transformation thanks to a donation of more than £1,500 from charity Rosie's Helping Hands and also with help from the area partnership.

Den

A collection of art boards and a 'secret den' area are some of the improvements carried out in the garden.

Rachel Taylor, playgroup manager said: "It was great to receive the funds that we have now used to make much-needed improvements to our garden. The children can now have a lot more fun playing in the garden thanks to this donation."

For more information about the playgroup contact Rachel on 01922 745106.

Barr Beacon is ready to be rocked by festival

MUSICIANS hope to rock an Aldridge landmark as they take part in a free music festival on Barr Beacon on Sunday afternoon.

Bands on the Beacon is a rock concert organised by Walsall Countryside Services and is aimed at making people aware of the 'Raising the Barr' Heritage Lottery Fund project to restore Barr Beacon.

Crowd

This is the fourth year of the festival and it will feature Aziz, led by former Stone Roses guitarist Aziz Ibrahim, plus Soulweaver and Into the Shadows.

Councillor Adrian Andrew, chair of Barr Beacon Trust, said: "Last year we drew a record crowd of 1,500 people and we'd like to beat that this year."

For more information go online to visit www.facebook.com/bandsonthebeacon

Rock gospel end to term

AS PART of the annual end-of-term spectacular at Aldridge School, 60 pupils will put on Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice's musical Jesus Christ Superstar.

Tickets for the musical, which runs July 16-20, cost £8 and £7 concessions and are available from the school on 01922 743988.

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One of the first adventures on the itinerary is the famous Pinnawala Elephant Orphanage which boasts a herd of over 75 animals from matriarchs to calves and their daily bath in the river provides a stunning photo opportunity.

Some of the other included tours are to the 600 foot granite tower called Sigiriya, or the Lion Rock, known for its ancient murals of 'cloud maidens'; to Kandy, Sri Lanka's last Royal capital; to the amazing cave temples of Dambulla, a UN World Heritage site; and to a well-known tea estate and spice garden, staying at the four-star Grand Hotel, originally the summer home of one of the Governors of Ceylon.

For a different sort of experience, two nights are reserved at the Safari Hotel, which has a pool, bar and restaurant overlooking the Tiffa Lake. Just 45 minutes from the Yala National Park this is the base for an early morning start to the jeep safari in the hope of seeing leopard, elephants, saltwater crocodiles, wild boar, sloth bears, monitor lizards and a huge variety of birdlife. The three-star superior Palms Hotel in the beach resort of Beruwela is the final port of call, allowing for two days of rest and relaxation before the journey home.



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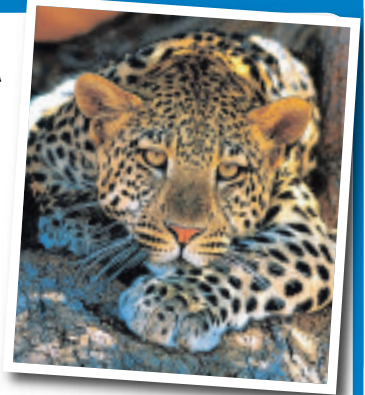
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For most visitors the highlight will be a full day's game drive that brings the chance to see the sweeping savannah and muddy waterholes lined with animals, and to marvel at the incredible 150 mammal and 500 bird species that live in the Kruger National Park, including the 'big five': elephant, lion, rhino, leopard and buffalo. Rooms are reserved at the three-star superior Hippo Hollow Country Estate, located in the midst of lush forest on the banks of the Sabie River. It's open-air terrace overlooks the grounds and river, so watch out for the hippos!

Those interested in history will be intrigued by the visit to Zululand, passing through Swaziland en route, to reach the haunting battlefields of Isandlwana and Rorke's Drift. In 1879 these two battles, just a day apart, became a defining moment for the British Empire and the specialist Zulu guide will make those desperate encounters come alive.

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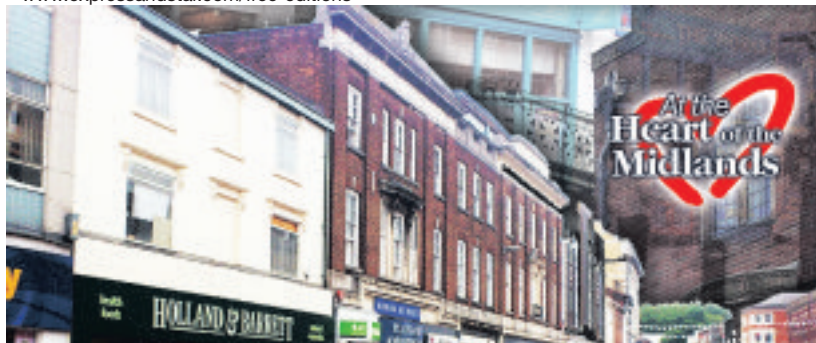
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Songwriters in concert to help autism charity



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Music lovers can head to Bookmark Bloxwich, in Elmore Row, on July 6, for a special Songwriters Night.

Money raised will go to young people's autism charity Kidzlikedanny.

Canadian country singer and songwriter Chuck Micallef will be performing and will compete the show alongside songwriter and comedian Tony Barrett.

Mod-influenced singer and songwriter Dale Hanson and singer Matt Tyler will also be on the bill. For tickets call 01922 655900.

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BIRMINGHAM Jazz and Blues Festival is back to bring the many and varied sounds of jazz to the second city with some 150 international acts performing at more than 80 venues – and most of the gigs will be free

Young blues star in gig

AWARD-WINNING blues singer and guitarist Chantel McGregor is in concert at Bilston's Robin 2 venue on Wednesday, July 3.

Chantel was voted Young Musician of the Year in the British Blues Awards 2011. Female Vocalist of the Year the following year and has been nominated for Female Vocalist of the Year and Guitarist of the Year in 2013.

She has jammed on stage with guitar legend Joe Bonamassa on two of his tours and won acclaim in her own right as a formidable guitar player, talented singer-songwriter and exciting live performer.

Tickets cost £11 in advance or £13 on the door. Call 01902 401211

With 200 gigs taking place between Friday, July 5, and Sunday, July 14, there is plenty of music to appreciate. Some of the artists to watch out for include acclaimed violinist Tim Kiphus from Holland, young Lithuanian band Sheep Got Waxed, Canadian singer Melissa Lauren, Chicago-born but Brum-based singer Bobby Woods, Spain's Potato Head Jazz Band and Irish singer-songwriter Grainne Duffy.

Old favourite include the Black Country's jump jive veterans King Pleasure & The Biscuit Boys, Steve Gibbons Band, Old Hill rock and roller Ricky Cool, Val Wiseman, trombonist Roy Williams and festival patron Digby Fairweather with his quartet.

The British Jazz Awards return to their home city at St Paul's Church in the Jewellery Quarter on July 10.

See www.birminghamjazzfestival.com for details.



He just can't wait to be king – Nicolas Nkuna playing Simba in The Lion King

Lion King roars in for summer

DISNEY'S The Lion King is one of the biggest productions to be staged at the Birmingham Hippodrome.

Due to its spectacular costumes, puppets and scenery, it takes a convoy of 23 45ft-long trailers to transport The Lion King from one city to the next on its UK tour.

The Lion King, adapted for the stage from the hit animated movie, comes to the Hippodrome on June 29 and runs for almost three months, to September 28.

The award-winning musical by Elton John and Tim Rice employs 150 people and 40 are local. There are 50 performers from 17 countries, supported by a backstage team of over 100. More than 25 different types of animal are represented in the show which opens with hit song Circle of Life.

REVIEW

Giselle, Birmingham Royal Ballet

THE Birmingham Royal Ballet must surely be the best in the world and their current interpretation of the timeless classic, Giselle, presented at the Birmingham Hippodrome is no exception.

The audience were treated to a visual delight of stunning scenery, breath-taking technique and exquisite choreography, perfectly relaying the story of the beautiful Giselle, who is driven to take her own life for the sake of love.

Magical

The Royal Ballet Sinfonia, under the instruction of Musical Director, Koen Kessels radiates spectacularly throughout the theatre, transporting you straight into this enchanting tale and then on to a magical journey through dance. Close your eyes and every note rings clear as a bell.

The coupling of Jenna Roberts in the title role and Iain MacKay as Count Albrecht is very special indeed, as they effortlessly glide together with grace and poise, performing exceptionally strong lifts and displaying an obvious emotional connection.

One of the highlights of the production is a long series of sharp entrechats, executed with ease by Mr MacKay. The couple's performance provoked impromptu bursts of applause throughout Act Two, as the audience's appreciation of their skills grew and grew.

Alison Norton

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What's On!

SATURDAY'S TV 29.06.13

Listings supplied by Press Association

CHOICE



John Inverdale

Today at Wimbledon BBC2, 8pm

John Inverdale presents action and reaction from the sixth day's play at the All England Club, focusing on the scheduled conclusion of the men's and ladies' third-round singles. The top seeds had things pretty much their own way on day six last year, with the likes of Juan Martin del Potro, Serena Williams, Andy Murray and Petra Kvitová all progressing to the fourth round. Despite a relatively wet beginning to the tournament, the schedule was back on track by this point in 2012, with all of the third-round singles matches completed.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Live. **11.30** Lorraine's Fast, Fresh and Easy Food. **12.00** BBC News: Regional News. **12.15** Live Formula 1: British Grand Prix - Qualifying. **2.20** Wimbledon 2013.

6.10 BBC News: Regional News; Weather.

6.30 **Celebrity Mastermind.** With Sarah Storey, Nihal Arthanayake, Dan Walker and Martin Lewis. Last in the series. (R)

7.00 **Pointless Celebrities.** One-time soap stars take part, including former EastEnders actors Dean Gaffney and John Altman, and Coronation Street's Ken Morley and Steven Arnold. (R)

7.50 **The National Lottery: In It to Win It.** Dale Winton hosts the quiz in which five contestants pit their wits to secure a big cash prize. Includes the National Lottery draws, presented by John Partridge.

8.40 **Casualty.** Tom and Sam clash over the best course of action for a mother who can no longer cope with looking after her autistic son, and Ash's tearaway daughter Ella causes more trouble.

9.30 BBC News; Weather; National Lottery Update.

9.50 **Film: Die Hard with a Vengeance.** (1995) New York cop John McClane pursues a terrorist threatening to set off a series of bombs around the city. Action thriller sequel, with Bruce Willis, Samuel L. Jackson and Jeremy Irons.

11.50 **Film: Tombstone.** (1993) Western, with Kurt Russell.

1.50 Weather. **1.55** BBC News.

BBC2

6.00 This Is BBC Two. **6.40** Formula 1: British Grand Prix - Practice One. **8.15** Formula 1: British Grand Prix - Practice Two. **9.55** Live Formula 1: British Grand Prix - Practice Three. **11.05** Wimbledon 2013. **4.00** Glastonbury 2013.

6.00 **Wimbledon 2013.** Further live coverage of the sixth day's play at the All England Club, where, weather permitting, the line-ups for the men's and ladies' fourth-round singles are set to be decided.

8.00 **Today at Wimbledon.** John Inverdale presents action and reaction from the sixth day's play at the All England Club, focusing on the scheduled conclusion of the men's and ladies' third-round singles.

9.00 **QI.** Guests Robert Webb, Phil Jupitus, Romni Ancona and regular panellist Alan Davies join host Stephen Fry, who asks questions about hypnosis, hallucinations and hysteria. (R)

9.30 **Mock the Week.** Gary Delaney, Holly Walsh and Josh Widdicombe join regulars Chris Addison, Hugh Dennis and Andy Parsons on the topical comedy quiz. (R)

10.00 **What a Load of Buzzcocks.** Music news stories and highlights of the comedy quiz from 2005. (R)

10.30 **Glastonbury 2013.** Lauren Laverne, Mark Radcliffe and Jo Whalley present coverage of the festival, headlined tonight by the Rolling Stones. Plus, highlights of Elvis Costello and Primal Scream.

2.00 This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Jake and the Neverland Pirates. **6.15** Jake and the Neverland Pirates. **6.25** Poppy Cat. **6.40** Poppy Cat. **6.50** Animals. (R) **7.00** Animals. (R) **7.10** Bookaboo. **7.20** Almost Naked Animals. (R) **7.35** Ultimate Spider-Man. **8.00** Gravity Falls. **8.25** ITV News. **8.30** Dinner Date. (R) **9.25** The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. (R) **10.15** Murder, She Wrote. (R) **11.15** ITV News; Weather. **11.30** Saturday Farm. **12.20** River Monsters. (R) **1.20** Film: Holiday On The Buses. (1973) **3.00** All Star Mr & Mrs. (R) **4.00** Midsomer Murders. (R)

6.00 **Regional Programme;** Weather.

6.15 **ITV News;** Weather.

6.30 **You've Been Framed!** Comical clips, including a dog-versus-crocodile showdown. (R)

7.00 **You've Been Framed!** Humorous footage, including a skateboarding Santa Claus.

7.30 **Your Face Sounds Familiar.** New series. Alesha Dixon and Paddy McGuinness host a live entertainment show in which six celebrities impersonate randomly selected music icons in a bid to win money for charity.

8.45 **All Star Family Fortunes.** New series. Casualty's Patrick Robinson and Big Brother's Bit on the Side co-host Ryan Clark team up with their families to win money for charity.

9.45 **The Americans.** The Jennings try to defeat a new FBI surveillance system.

10.30 **ITV News;** Weather.

10.45 **Film: Space Cowboys.** (2000) Adventure, starring Clint Eastwood.

1.05 Jackpot247. **3.00** In Plain Sight. (R) **3.45** ITV Nightscreen.

CHANNEL 4

6.00 The Treacle People. (R) **6.10** The Hoobs. (R) **6.35** The Hoobs. (R) **7.00** VW Racing Cup. **7.30** The Grid. **9.00** The Morning Line. **9.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **9.30** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **10.00** Frasier. (R) **10.30** Frasier. (R) **11.00** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **11.30** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **12.00** The Simpsons. (R) **12.30** Heston's Fantastical Food. (R) **1.35** Channel 4 Racing. **4.20** IPC Athletics Grand Prix Final.

6.30 **Channel 4 News.**

7.00 **Come Dine with Me.** A week of dinner parties in Barnsley, South Yorkshire, featuring an American-themed evening, a Wild West-style bash and unusual delicacies including ostrich egg and pig's ears. (R)

8.00 **Grand Designs.** Kevin McColl follows the progress of south London couple Mary Martin and Carl Turner, who want to build a home that resembles a giant stack of glass cubes. (R)

9.00 **The Million Pound Drop Live.** Davina McCall presents the quiz show in which contestants are challenged to place large quantities of cash over trapdoors as they face a series of questions.

10.30 **Film: Patriot Games.** (1992) Former CIA agent Jack Ryan foils an assassination attempt by an IRA splinter group, killing one of the terrorists in the process. Thriller, starring Harrison Ford, Sean Bean, Samuel L. Jackson, Richard Harris and James Earl Jones.

12.50 Paddy's TV Guide. (R) **1.35** Just Around the Corner. (R) **2.05** The Million Pound Drop Live. (R) **3.30** Hollywoods. (R) **5.45** Kirstie's Handmade Treasures.

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! **10.00** Power Rangers Samurai. (R) **10.35** ThunderCats. (R) **11.00** Highland Emergency. (R) **11.30** Big Brother: Live Eviction. (R) **12.55** CSI: NY. (R) **1.40** CSI: NY. (R) **2.30** Film: Gold. (1974) **4.50** Film: Zulu Dawn. (1979)

7.00 **5 News Weekend.**

7.10 **The CSI Movie: Crisis.** A government weapons truck is hijacked as part of a plan to allow a criminal to escape from jail. Feature-length episode of the crime drama, starring David Caruso.

8.45 **Big Brother.** Highlights of another 24 hours in the Big Brother house, including coverage of the second eviction as seen from the point of view of the contestants.

10.00 **Big Brother's Bit on the Psych.** Ad Odudu is joined by a panel of psychologists and celebrity fans to analyse the housemates' behaviour.

11.00 **The Walking Dead.** New series. A prison provides an opportunity for the survivors to establish a new base camp, but they find it is not uninhabited. Post-apocalyptic drama, with Andrew Lincoln.

11.55 **Inside Hollywood.** Magazine show, with location reports, showbusiness news and views from behind the scenes in Tinseltown. Presented by Mark Morris.

12.00 **SuperCasino.** **4.00** Michael's Wild Challenge. (R) **4.25** Make It Big. (R) **4.50** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **5.00** Angels of Jarm. (R) **5.10** Hana's Helpline. (R) **5.20** Angels of Jarm. (R) **5.25** The Funky Valley Show. (R) **5.40** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **5.50** Hana's Helpline. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three

7.00 Laura Mvula & Noah and the Whale @ Glastonbury **8.00** Ben Howard & Maverick Sabre @ Glastonbury **9.00** Two Door Cinema Club & Example @ Glastonbury **10.30** Chase & Status Live @ Glastonbury

BBC Four

7.00 Heritage! The Battle for Britain's Past **8.00** Oceans **9.00** Wallender: The Fifth Woman **10.55** Glastonbury: Public Enemy

ITV2

4.30 Film: Star Wars: Episode II - Attack of the Clones (2002) **7.15** Film: The Scorpion King (2002) **9.00** Film: Pitch Black (2000) **11.15** Lemon La Vida Loca **11.55** Film: 300 (2006)

ITV3

3.10 Film: Murder, She Wrote: The Last Free Man (2001) **5.00** Film: The Great St Trinian's Train Robbery (1966) **7.00** Agatha Christie's Marple **9.00** Agatha Christie's Poirot **11.00** Wire in the Blood

ITV4

10.55 Tour de France 2013 Live **4.30** British Touring Car Championship **6.00** The Sweeney **7.00** Tour de France 2013 Highlights **8.00** The Motorbike Show **9.00** Hell on Wheels **10.00** Film: Cliffhanger (1993)

E4

3.00 90210 **4.00** Rules of Engagement **6.00** The Big Bang Theory **7.00** The Mindy Project **7.30** Happy Endings **8.00** How I Met Your Mother **8.30** 2 Broke Girls **9.00** Film: Coming to America (1988) **11.20** The Inbetweeners **Film4**

3.30 The Remains of the Day (1993) **6.10** The Hunt for Red October (1990) **9.00** Limitless (2011) Sci-fi thriller, with Bradley Cooper. **11.05** Scanners (1981)

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What's On!

SUNDAY'S TV 30.06.13
CHOICE

Michael Buble
Michael Buble's Day Off

ITV, 9pm
Suited and booted and preened to perfection with a voice that booms from here to the other side of Christmas, Michael Buble never fails to put on a show-stopping performance. But just for once, this isn't about his voice – it's all about his private life. Yes, Buble is allowing access into his life as he takes a day off in his hometown of Vancouver to spend time with his friends and family. Michael pays his 86-year-old grandpa a visit, and reminisces with his dad about the days and nights they used to spend out at sea, before preparing to attend his 20th high school reunion.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **9.00** The Andrew Marr Show. **10.00** Sunday Morning Live. **11.00** Sunday Politics. **12.10** Live Formula 1: British Grand Prix. Suzi Perry presents coverage of the eighth round of the season at Silverstone (Start-time 1.00pm), where Mark Webber took the honours last year. **3.30** A Question of Sport: A-Z. (R) **4.00** Escape to the Country. (R) **5.00** Songs of Praise. **5.35** Earthflight. A bird's-eye view of Europe. (R)

6.35 BBC News: Regional News: Weather.

7.00 **Antiques Roadshow.** Fiona Bruce and the team head to Chatsworth House in Derbyshire, where objects awaiting valuation include a tile commemorating one of the biggest bare-knuckle fights in history. (R)

8.00 **Countryfile.** John Craven visits the Lake District, where he makes a journey by steam train and rides a steamer on Lake Windermere. Plus, archive stories featuring cars, boats and bikes. Including Weather for the Week Ahead.

9.00 **The White Queen.** Margaret Beaufort joins Warwick's rebellion against Edward, but when the uprising fails, the traitors run for their lives – so Elizabeth and Jacquetta turn to witchcraft again.

10.00 BBC News: Regional News: Weather.

10.25 **Match of the Day Live.** The Confederations Cup final (Kick-off 11.00pm). Gary Lineker presents all the action from the showpiece match at the Maracana in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Subsequent programmes are subject to change.

1.30 Weatherview. **1.35** BBC News.

BBC2

6.00 This is BBC Two. **6.40** Film: Mr Lucky. (1943) Romantic comedy drama, starring Cary Grant and Laraine Day. **8.15** The A to Z of TV Gardening. **9.00** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. **10.30** MotoGP: Weather for the Week Ahead. **12.05** EastEnders. (R) **2.00** Live Athletics. The British Grand Prix. **5.00** Glastonbury 2013.

7.00 **Peter Jones Meets.** The Dragons' Den star chats to the father and son who oversee high-street retail chain Timpson, and meets the woman behind St Tropez self-tanning products. Last in the series.

8.00 **Top Gear.** New series. Jeremy Clarkson and James May take part in a race between a car and a yacht in New Zealand and Richard Hammond tries out the latest hot hatches.

9.00 **Rise of the Continents.** Iain Stewart examines the development of Eurasia, which consists of Europe and Asia and was formed by tectonic-plate collisions over millions of years. Last in the series.

10.00 **Glastonbury 2013.** Jo Whitley, Mark Radcliffe and Lauren Laverne present coverage of the last day of the festival, with Mumford & Sons scheduled to headline the Pyramid stage.

2.00 Sign Zone: Countryfile. The story of the smugglers who used to operate on Romney Marsh in Kent, and whether bringing super-fast broadband to the northern English countryside is worth the expense. (R) **3.00** Holly City. Ollie's erratic behaviour endangers a patient's life. (R) **4.00** This is BBC Two. Preview of upcoming programmes from BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITY: Jake and the Neverland Pirates. **6.15** Jake and the Neverland Pirates. **6.25** Poppy Cat. **6.40** Poppy Cat. **6.50** Animals. (R) **7.00** Animals. (R) **7.10** Bookaboo. **7.20** Almost Naked Animals. (R) **7.35** Kick Butowski – Suburban Daredevil. **7.50** Kick Butowski – Suburban Daredevil. **8.00** Sonny with a Chance. **8.25** ITV News. **8.30** Country House Sunday. **9.25** The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. (R) **11.20** Murder, She Wrote. (R) **11.20** ITV News: Weather. **11.25** Film: Sparkling Cyanide. (1983) **1.20** Love Your Garden. (R) **2.20** A Touch of Frost. (R) **4.20** You've Been Framed! (R) **4.50** Film: Beethoven's 5th. (2003)

6.30 Regional Programme; Weather.

6.45 ITV News: Weather.

7.00 **Tippling Point: Lucky Stars.** With Coozie, Jenny Eclair and Matthew Wolfenden.

8.00 **The Cube: Celebrity Special.** Olympic gymnast Louis Smith and TOWIE star Mark Wright take on the challenge in a bid to raise money for charity. Phillip Schofield hosts.

9.00 **Michael Buble's Day Off.** The Canadian crooner gives a personal insight into his life as he takes a day off in his home town of Vancouver to spend time with his family and friends.

10.00 ITV News: Weather.

10.15 **The Talent Show Story.** The changing role of the talent-show host. (R)

11.15 **Murder, She Wrote.** Part two of two. Doctor reveals Seth was poisoned. (R)

12.15 The Store. **2.15** Monk. (R) **3.00** Motorsport UK. **3.50** ITV Nightseries. **5.05** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R)

CHANNEL 4

6.00 The Treacle People. (R) **6.10** The Hoobs. (R) **6.35** Ironman 2013. **7.05** Windsor Trillionaire. **8.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.30** Frasier. (R) **9.00** Frasier. (R) **9.30** Sunday Brunch. **12.25** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **12.50** The Simpsons. (R) **1.20** The Simpsons. (R) **1.50** Celebrity Come Dine with Me. (R) **2.55** Hollywood Me. (R) **3.55** Deal or No Deal. **4.55** Film: Fantastic Mr Fox. (2009)

6.30 Channel 4 News.

7.00 **Terror in the Skies.** Aeronautical engineer Brendan Walker looks at what happens when planes fly into hazards such as lightning, invisible wind shear, birds and volcanic ash. Last in the series.

8.00 **The Secret of Lincoln Jail: A Time Team Special.** As an archaeological dig at Lincoln Castle reveals new secrets about the horrors of its early prisons, Tony Robinson traces the story of punishment over the course of a millennium.

9.00 **The Returned.** As Lena's mysterious scar grows, she is convinced Camille is behind it, while Julie does not put up a fight when the police take Victor away. French supernatural thriller.

10.05 **Film: Fracture.** (2007) A man shoots his wife, confesses to the crime, and represents himself in court, where he demolishes the prosecution's case. Thriller, starring Anthony Hopkins and Ryan Gosling.

12.15 The Simpsons. (R) **1.05** Film: Chitragada. The Crowning Wish. (2012) **3.35** Location, Location, Location. (R) **4.30** Deal or No Deal. (R) **5.25** Countdown. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! Peppa Pig. **6.05** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **6.15** Film: The Flower Girls. **6.25** Bubble Guppies. **6.35** The Mr Men Show. (R) **6.50** Chloe's Closet. **7.00** Roobarb and Custard Too. (R) **7.10** Bananas in Pyjamas. (R) **7.20** Noddy in Toyland. (R) **7.30** Bert and Ernie's Great Adventures. (R) **7.40** City of Friends. (R) **7.50** Little Princess. (R) **8.05** The Adventures of Bottle Top Bill and His Best Friend Corky. (R) **8.20** Milkshake! Ballerina. (R) **8.45** Rupert Bear. (R) **9.00** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **9.15** Toby's Travelling Circus. (R) **9.30** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **9.45** Jelly Jamm. (R) **10.00** The Mr Men Show. (R) **10.15** Power Rangers Samurai. (R) **10.50** ThunderCats. (R) **11.15** Monkey Life. (R) **11.45** Big Brother. (R) **12.55** BB BOTS: Ryan's Superized Celebrity Sunday. **2.00** Film: National Security. (2003) **3.35** Film: Gremlins 2: The New Batch. (1990) **5.40** Film: Lost in Space. (1998)

7.55 5 News Weekend.

8.00 **Once Upon a Time.** A giant goes on the rampage in Storybrooke.

9.00 **Big Brother.** Daily round-up of highlights.

10.00 **Film: The Eye.** (2008) Premiers. Horror, starring Jessica Alba.

11.55 **Bomb Patrol.** Chase Holtzauer and Jeremy Stein are called on to dispose of a suicide vest.

12.55 SuperCasino. **4.00** Michael's Wild Challenge. (R) **4.20** Make It Big. (R) **4.50** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **5.00** Angels of Jarm. (R) **5.05** Hana's Helpline. (R) **5.20** Angels of Jarm. (R) **5.25** The Funky Family Show. (R) **5.40** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **5.50** Hana's Helpline. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three
7.00 Formula 1: British Grand Prix Highlights. **8.00** Vampire Weekend & Jessie Ware @ Glastonbury **9.00** Editors & Lianne La Havas @ Glastonbury **10.00** The xx Live @ Glastonbury **11.30** Russell Howard's Good News Extra

BBC Four
7.00 Britain's Natural World **7.10** The Rabbits of Skomer **7.20** Film: She Wore a Yellow Ribbon (1949) **9.00** Rich Hall's You Can Go to Hell, I'm Going to Texas **10.30** Glastonbury: Bobby Womack

ITV2

3.15 Film: Catwoman (2004) **5.15** Film: Star Wars: Episode III – Revenge of the Sith (2005) **8.00** Film: Evan Almighty (2007) **10.00** The Only Way Is Essex **10.50** Big Brother: Texas **11.50** Hell's Kitchen

ITV3

3.45 Inspector Morse **5.55** Agatha Christie's Poirot **7.55** Lewis. The inspector investigates a student's murders. **10.00** A Touch of Frost

ITV4

1.00 Tour de France 2013 Live **4.30** Dakar Rally: Frontline to Finish Line **6.30** Police, Camera, Action! **7.00** Tour de France 2013 Highlights **8.00** 20 Years of Champions League **10.00** Film: Species: The Awakening (2007)

E4

4.00 90210 **5.00** The Mindy Project **5.30** New Girl **6.00** The Big Bang Theory **7.30** How I Met Your Mother **8.30** Film: Hot Shots! Part Deux (1993) **10.15** The Inbetweeners **11.20** Don't Trust the B... in Apartment 23 **11.50** Alan Carr: Chatty Man

Film4
3.05 Black Knight (2001) **4.55** The Belles of St Trinian's (1954) **6.50** Grease (1978) **9.00** Unknown (2011) **11.15** The Spirit of '45 (2013)

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Film Choices

MONDAY

Picking Up and Dropping Off, Channel 5, 3.15pm
Two single parents – one a lonely weatherman and the other an antiques dealer – have a chance encounter during a hectic trip to the airport to drop off their children. The pair go their separate ways, but although they are unable to stop thinking about each other, they lack the courage to act on their feelings. Romantic comedy, starring Scott Wolf, Amanda Detmer and Rachelle Lefevre. (2003)

TUESDAY

Cold Mountain, BBC2, 11.20pm
A soldier serving in the American Civil War deserts his post and makes a long journey home to the woman he loves. She faces challenges of her own, as she struggles to run her dead father's farm and stop the cruel leader of the local home guard stealing her land. Anthony Minghella's period drama, starring Nicole Kidman, Jude Law, Renee Zellweger, Philip Seymour Hoffman, Natalie Portman and Donald Sutherland. (2003)

WEDNESDAY

Holy Man, Channel 4, 1.45am
The cynical executive in charge of a downmarket TV shopping channel hires a mystic guru as a presenter to draw in more viewers. The ratings soar as the unlikely host's on-air spiritual advice proves a runaway hit with the public, and also makes his shallow boss reassess his values. Satirical comedy, starring Eddie Murphy, Jeff Goldblum, Kelly Preston and Jon Cryer. (1998)



Notting Hill, Friday, ITV, 10.35pm

THURSDAY

Murder 101: If Wishes Were Horses, Channel 5, 3.15pm
Retired criminologist Dr Jonathan Maxwell teams up with private detective Mike Bryant to investigate the theft of a champion racehorse. However, the case takes a more sinister turn when a member of the family that owns the animal dies in suspicious circumstances. Mystery, starring Ray Abruzzo and Brad Beyer. (2007)

FRIDAY

Notting Hill, ITV, 10.35pm
A recently divorced bookshop owner finds love with a glamorous Hollywood film star, but ends up the focus of unwanted media interest – which makes maintaining a relationship a tricky proposition. Romantic comedy, starring Hugh Grant, Julia Roberts. (1999)

Old School

BBC1, 11.25pm
An embittered lawyer decides to relive the wild, crazy days of his youth after his girlfriend is unfaithful, and enlists the help of two equally disillusioned friends in setting up a fraternity house next to his former college campus. Comedy, with Luke Wilson and Will Ferrell. (2003)

Pick of the Week

Rick takes a culinary journey around India

The part-travelogue, part-cookery show format is a recipe which has been emulated many times, ever since Keith Floyd first wobbled his way through various exotic locations in search of interesting foods (and drinks).

It's quite a simple one to follow, too – simply take one recognisable chef, immerse in a sunny location, simmer for six weeks and serve with a brand new hardback cookbook. Et voilà!

So yes, it's true that this latest adventure embarked upon by Rick Stein is hardly original – Stein himself has had similar series already in locales such as the Far East and Spain already – however the Oxfordshire foodie is always worth a watch.

His avuncular style and enthusiastic demeanour make him the perfect traveller, as he gets to the roots of an area, meeting locals and getting to know their culinary secrets, as well as exploring how food plays a pivotal role in their culture.

This week, the seafood chef approaches the halfway point of his journey, as he arrives in the southern town of Madurai in Tamil Nadu. Located on the banks of the River Vaigai, Madurai has a rich history.

It's been a major settlement for over 2,000 years, making it one of the oldest continuously inhabited cities in the world – so as one might reasonably expect its people have developed an impressive array of local delicacies. Indeed, while there, Rick learns how to cook food fit for a deity at a temple, as well as sampling the specially lentil-based dish of sambar.

It's not long before our genial tour guide is back on the road again, though, and en route to the state of Kerala, by way of a road trip across the Western Ghats. Kerala, on the Malabar coast in the south-west of the country, has long been a bustling centre for the spice trade, allowing its dishes to develop rich and complex flavours.

Here, Rick picks up some tips on making a traditional pork curry with a

distinctly Kerala flavour, before turning his attention to preparing a regional dessert, payasam, which is a sweetened rice pudding containing fruit, nuts, and plenty of spices.

For anyone who thought the cuisine of India was simply curry, curry and more curry, this will prove to be an eye-opening series – it seems that in reality, dishes are as diverse and plentiful as they are delicious, and it's that variety which is as richly spicy as any.

Mind you, that's not to say Rick doesn't enjoy a good curry. He explained at the start of the series, "There's something about a curry that's all-pervading; just the thought of it ignites a longing deep inside us. It's the only food I can think of where the sense of smell works so wonderfully well with memory and imagination... No other food I know gives the taste buds such a roller-coaster ride."

It's that blend of poeticism and enthusiasm that makes Rick the perfect choice to front this spectacular series.



Rick Stein's India, Monday, BBC2, 9pm

Best of the Rest

MONDAY

The Gadget Show
Channel 5, 8pm

Gamers take note! Tonight, the team is at the world's biggest gamers' expo to sample the PS4 and Xbox One in the company of gaming superstars KSI and Ali-A. Now part of a huge industry, consoles are becoming more multi-media and their games more realistic, so it's tantalising to imagine what these new releases are capable of. However, it's not just the PS4 and Xbox One that get sampled tonight. Rachel Riley and Jason Bradbury put the latest home security technology through its paces, Pollyanna Woodward tests a jet-powered bodyboard, while Jon Bentley looks at the alternatives when he asks whether we still need Sky TV.

Undercover Boss

Channel 4, 9pm

Here's a lesson to live your life by: always welcome new colleagues with open arms, at least until you're completely sure that they're not an Undercover Boss. This ever-entertaining series is back for a fifth series tonight, beginning as Phil Couchman, CEO of DHL Express UK & Ireland, joins staff on the front line. In the three years since he became boss, Phil has seen the company's turnover reach a massive £800million – however, rapid expansion brings its own problems, and the high-flying exec is eager to find out what can be done, even if it means getting his own hands dirty in the process.

TUESDAY

Gok Live: Stripping for Summer
Channel 4, 8pm

"Thank Gok he's back!" ... is how we imagine the cries of women across the nation will sound when they catch this new series. Gok Wan's on hand to prepare women with the confidence they need to dare to bare for the summer holidays, but this time he's got the added pressure of the show being live. In the first instalment, he surprises two women with a new look for the holidays, while his huge outside catwalk show is filled with tips on how to look good in the sun, no matter your size or body shape. First up, he's focusing on the dreaded bikini. Meanwhile, Katie Piper is on hand to offer a step-by-step guide to essential holiday beauty maintenance.

WEDNESDAY

Dates
Channel 4, 10pm

As the series comes to an end, we check in with Mia and David, who are now in a fully fledged relationship – but it seems like there are just as many problems that come hand-in-hand with relationships as they do the single life. As Mia prepares to meet her new boyfriend's children, events take an awkward turn and she is forced to finally confront the gap in her life that's she's trying to fill. Bryan Elsley, creator of the drama, has

played a blinder with this series; it's touched the nation and appealed to so many people in different ways. Hats off to all involved in a stunning series...

THURSDAY

Happy Families
ITV, 9pm

As the last episode in this fascinating documentary series airs, the four families at the heart of it should be in a celebratory mood – at the very least, they should be patting themselves on the backs for being brave enough to let the nation get a glimpse of their domestic arrangements. However, one clan in particular should feel like throwing a party, as Mel and Kris are renewing their vows, although juggling five kids with five part-time jobs doesn't leave much time for wedding planning. When they're not trying to make it down the aisle, Mel and Kris find time to reflect on what it takes to make a marriage work, a topic that's also on the minds of the other families.

FRIDAY

Sherlock

BBC1, 8.30pm

Don't get your hopes up too

much – the BBC aren't finally putting us out of our misery and bringing us the third series of Sherlock, complete with an explanation of what exactly happened in the last episode of season two. But fortunately, we can enjoy the second series again, thanks to these repeats which begin with the detective duo investigating a case of blackmail that threatens to go right to the very heart of the British establishment. That's more or less just another day at the office for Holmes and Watson. But that's before their investigations bring Sherlock into contact with someone every bit as cold, ruthless and brilliant as he is – Irene Adler (Lara Pulver).

Britain's Secret Homes
ITV, 9pm

If the endless repeats of Grand Designs, Location, Location, Location, and A Place in the Sun haven't quite satisfied your appetite for shows about houses, then this countdown show should. For the last in the current series, Michael Buerk and Bettany Hughes will be wrapping things up with the aid of some rather famous folks, and the odd person who is almost famous. We'll let you decide which one is which as actor David Jason, actress and impressionist Ronni Ancona, Father Brown star Mark Williams and TV presenter Mary-Anne Ochota explore the 10 most remarkable properties in the country. They include the Lincoln restaurant with a tragic, murderous past, and a house in Shropshire that helped save the monarchy.



Gok Live: Stripping ... Tuesday, Channel 4, 8pm

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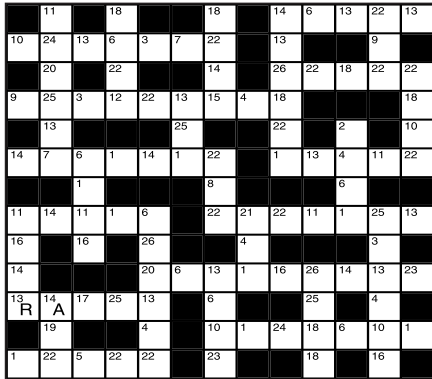
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Brain Gym

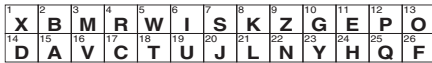
No.227

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:



Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

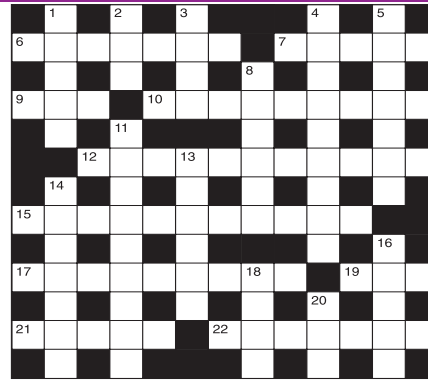
Cryptic Clues:

Across

6. Everybody was in debt - it's not forbidden (7)
7. Timber needed for shafts (5)
9. A New York word (3)
10. The right alternative for the proof-reader (9)
12. I made orders for desert transport (11)
15. Venus is no matinee idol, apparently! (7-4)
17. Slightly injured - withdrawn from the team (9)
19. Aim in a given direction (3)
21. Monetary securities producing personal restrictions (5)
22. I strive to make another call (7)

Down

1. Cast used for supporting a weak member (5)
2. This sly creature is a loud bellow (3)
3. Money needed to settle the account, we hear, in this way (4)
4. Inconstant, like a planet (9)
5. I'm ready for the picture to be put on (7)
8. Wedding belles (6)
11. They certainly couldn't be accused of having too little spirit! (9)
13. A stick-up with me around constitutes a threat (6)
14. One who ousts the Eastern conqueror (7)
16. Point at which metal-workers strike (5)
18. Poetic end to the day is calm and unruffled (4)
20. Short writing can be illuminated (3)



Quick Clues:

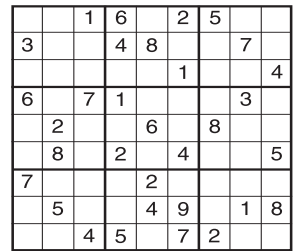
Across

6. Liberty (7)
7. Lid (5)
9. Insane (3)
10. Impromptu (9)
12. Essay (11)
15. Cheeky (11)
17. Deeply shocked (9)
19. In favour of (3)
21. Scatter (5)
22. Attack (7)

Down

1. Handle (5)
2. Determined (3)
3. Trick (4)
4. Fit (9)
5. Censure (7)
8. Diminish (6)
11. Alien (9)
13. Glib talk (6)
14. Copy (7)
16. Earth (5)
18. Otherwise (4)
20. Hiatus (3)

Sudoku



Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

5	1	9	7	2	8	4	6	3
7	8	3	5	9	4	1	6	2
4	6	2	1	3	8	7	5	9
1	4	5	2	7	3	6	9	8
9	3	7	6	8	5	2	1	4
6	2	8	9	4	1	3	7	5
8	9	6	4	1	2	5	3	7
2	7	1	3	5	9	8	4	6
3	5	4	8	6	7	9	2	1

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS:
CRYPTIC - Across: 7 Spine-chilling; 8 Trousers; 9 Duty; 10 Stayed; 12 Easter; 14 Edison; 16 Temple; 18 Spar; 20 Trailers; 22 Distinguished. Down: 1 Spirited; 2 Injury; 3 Acre; 4 Misspent; 5 Blades; 6 Knot; 11 Donating; 13 Enlarged; 15 Struts; 17 Molest; 19 Pair; 21 Arum. QUICK - Across: 7 United Kingdom; 8 Reticent; 9 Able; 10 Gentle; 12 Action; 14 Street; 16 Tested; 18 Goad; 20 Entrance; 22 Salvation Army. Down: 1 Interest; 2 Strict; 3 Idle; 4 Distract; 5 Agghast; 6 Toll; 11 Entreaty; 13 Overcome; 15 Endive; 17 Seaman; 19 Oral; 21 Trot.



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A separate sitting room has laminate flooring and windows to the side elevation.

There is an impressive breakfast kitchen with French doors and window to

the rear of the property. The kitchen has many integrated appliances, wall and base cupboards, granite work surfaces and music speakers to the ceiling.

Bedroom one has walk-in bay window, wardrobes and an ensuite.

The second bedroom has a Jack and Jill en-suite plus wardrobes.

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The chic breakfast kitchen at Highfields Grange

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Lot 3 Kings Lodge, 143 Kingstanding Road, Kingstanding, Birmingham Commercial Vacant	Lot 41 147 - 151 Dollman Street, Nechells, Birmingham Commercial Part Vacant / Part Investment	Lot 77 2 Northcote Road, Stechford, Birmingham Commercial Vacant
Lot 4 65 Thornthwaite Close, Rednal, Birmingham Residential Vacant	Lot 42 The Cleveland Arms, Shrewsbury Road, High Ercall, Shropshire Commercial Vacant	Lot 78 1 Knowle Road, Sparkhill, Birmingham Development / Redevelopment Opportunity
Lot 5 7 Chamberlain Road, Kings Heath, Birmingham Commercial Vacant	Lot 43 64 Beckett Street, Bilston Residential Vacant	Lot 79 157 Quinton Road West, Quinton, Birmingham Commercial Vacant
Lot 6 6 Victoria Avenue, Halesowen, Birmingham Commercial Vacant	Lot 44 33 Kenelm Road, Small Heath, Birmingham Residential Vacant	Lot 80 163 Bank Street, Brierley Hill Commercial Vacant
Lot 7 Land off Groveley Lane, Longbridge, Birmingham Land	Lot 45 81 Kenelm Road, Small Heath, Birmingham Residential Vacant	Lot 81 19 Havacre Lane, Bilston Residential Vacant
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Lot 9 94 Haslucks Green Road, Shirley, Solihull Residential Vacant	Lot 47 17 Sheringham Road, Kings Norton, Birmingham Residential Vacant	Lot 83 148 Cannon Road, Chadsmore, Cannock Commercial/Residential Vacant
Lot 10 771 - 787 Chester Road, Erdington, Birmingham Residential Vacant / Development Opportunity	Lot 48 162 Tyburn Road, Erdington, Birmingham Residential Vacant	Lot 84 23c Church Lane, Wolverhampton Commercial Vacant
Lot 11 Livingstone House, 50 Livingstone Road, Handsworth Birmingham Commercial Vacant	Lot 49 40 Roydon Road, Acocks Green, Birmingham Residential Vacant	Lot 85 20 Woodland Grove, Great Barr, Birmingham Residential Vacant
Lot 12 61 Hanbury Road, Stoke Prior, Bromsgrove Residential Vacant	Lot 50 Block E5 Waterfront East Level Street, Brierley Hill Commercial Investment	Lot 86 6 Scott Close, West Bromwich, West Midlands Residential Investment
Lot 13 63 Hanbury Road, Stoke Prior, Bromsgrove Residential Vacant	Lot 51 The Phoenix Club, Pound Road, Druids Heath Commercial Vacant / Development Opportunity	Lot 87 10 Scott Close, West Bromwich, West Midlands Residential Investment
Lot 14 3 Pikehelve Street, West Bromwich, West Midlands Commercial Vacant	Lot 52 6 Beaconsfield Avenue, Parkfields, Wolverhampton Residential Vacant	Lot 88 45 Wolverhampton Road, Dudley Commercial Investment
Lot 15 55 Albert Road, Wolverhampton Residential Vacant	Lot 53 138 Marsh Lane, Wolverhampton Residential Vacant	Lot 89 373 Coventry Road, Small Heath, Birmingham Commercial Investment
Lot 16 17 Drummery Lane, Wrookwardine, Telford Residential Investment	Lot 54 24 Hart Road, Wednesfield Residential Investment	Lot 90 85 Linwood Road, Handsworth, Birmingham Residential Vacant
Lot 17 49 Fiery Hill Road, Barnt Green Residential Vacant	Lot 55 Land at Bredon Cross Wharf, Pershore Road, Kings Norton Birmingham Commercial Investment	Lot 91 'East View', 197 Birmingham Road, Norton, Bromsgrove Residential Vacant
Lot 18 Land at 37 Factory Road / 31 Furnace Parade, Tipton Land	Lot 56 48 - 52 Roundwell Street, Stoke on Trent Commercial Investment	Lot 92 102 Woden Road East, Wednesbury Residential Vacant
Lot 19 47 Skidmore Avenue, Bradmore, Wolverhampton Residential Vacant	Lot 57 54 - 56 Roundwell Street, Stoke on Trent Commercial Investment	Lot 93 6 Willoughby Court, Springfield Road, Walmley Residential Vacant
Lot 20 21 - 3 Bridgnorth Road, Compton, Wolverhampton Commercial Investment	Lot 58 18 / 20 Battlefield Hill, Wombourne, Wolverhampton Residential Part Vacant / Part Investment	Lot 94 Flat 8 Queenswood House, Brandwood Road, Kings Heath Birmingham Residential Investment
Lot 21 28 Shirley Road, Acocks Green, Birmingham Residential Vacant	Lot 59 113 Ladypool Road & 180 - 182 Ombersley Road, Sparkbrook, Birmingham Commercial Vacant/Development Opportunity	Lot 95 2 Fifth Avenue, Bordesley Green, Birmingham Residential Investment
Lot 22 32 Fisher Road, Walsall Residential Vacant	Lot 60 2 Park Gate Mews, Newhall Street, Tipton Residential Investment	Lot 96 169 Antrobus Road, Handsworth, Birmingham Residential Vacant
Lot 23 55 - 57 Old Hinkley Lane, Nuneaton Ground Rent	Lot 61 4 Park Gate Mews, Newhall Street, Tipton Residential Investment	Lot 97 163 Greenpark Road, Dudley Residential Vacant
Lot 24 Land R/o 13 - 27 Ebrington Road, West Bromwich, West Midlands Land	Lot 62 7 Park Gate Mews, Newhall Street, Tipton Residential Investment	Lot 98 20 Brierley, Beacon View Road, West Bromwich West Midlands NOT TO BE OFFERED Residential Investment
Lot 25 Apartment 68 Rivendell, 1051 - 1071 Stratford Road, Hall Green, Birmingham Residential Vacant	Lot 63 95 High Green, Cannock Commercial Investment	Lot 99 49 Brierley, Beacon View Road, West Bromwich West Midlands Residential Investment
Lot 26 69 Wimperis Way, Great Barr, Birmingham Residential Investment	Lot 64 28 Gleebe Farm Road, Stechford, Birmingham Commercial Investment	Lot 100 146 Witton Lane, West Bromwich, West Midlands Residential Vacant
Lot 27 255 Malmesbury Road, Small Heath, Birmingham Residential Vacant	Lot 65 59 Mill Street, Bilston Residential Vacant	Lot 101 3 Partridge Avenue, Darlaston Residential Vacant
Lot 28 Lane & Building at Peartree Lane, Dudley Land	Lot 66 The Kings Head, 15 Mill Street, Brierley Hill Commercial Investment	Lot 102 6 Croxden Avenue, Bloxwich Residential Vacant
Lot 29 40 Millbrook Street, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire Residential Vacant	Lot 67 52 Lynton Avenue, Wolverhampton Residential Vacant	Lot 103 6 Spring Grove, Hockley, Birmingham Residential Vacant
Lot 30 1 Holly Park Industrial Estate, Erdington, Birmingham Commercial Investment	Lot 68 50 Limetrees Close, Port Clarence, Middlesbrough Residential Investment	Lot 104 7 Spring Grove, Hockley, Birmingham Residential Vacant
Lot 31 Land at Lath Lane off Spoon Lane, West Bromwich West Midlands Commercial Investment	Lot 69 54 Limetrees Close, Port Clarence, Middlesbrough Residential Investment	Lot 105 8 Spring Grove, Hockley, Birmingham Residential Vacant
Lot 32 3 - 5 Liverpool Road, Stoke on Trent Commercial Vacant	Lot 70 134 Middlemore Industrial Estate, Smethwick, West Midlands Commercial Vacant	Lot 106 9 Spring Grove, Hockley, Birmingham Residential Vacant
Lot 33 46 Bull Lane, Brindley Ford, Stoke on Trent Residential Vacant	Lot 71 136 Middlemore Industrial Estate, Smethwick, West Midlands Commercial Vacant	Lot 107 61 Eliot Street, Nechells, Birmingham Residential Vacant
Lot 34 57 Heathfield Road, Handsworth, Birmingham Residential Vacant	Lot 72 181 High Street, Brownhills Commercial Vacant	Lot 108 106 Whitehall Lane, Northfield, Birmingham Residential Vacant
Lot 35 1 - 3 Roebuck Lane, Smethwick, West Midlands Commercial Investment	Lot 73 168 Grange Road, Kings Heath, Birmingham NOT TO BE OFFERED Residential Vacant	Lot 109 20 Madin Road, Tipton NOT TO BE OFFERED Residential Investment
Lot 36 3 Beech Street, Highley, Bridgnorth Residential Vacant	Lot 74 423 Birmingham Road, Walsall Residential Vacant	Lot 110 295 Stafford Road, Wolverhampton NOT TO BE OFFERED Residential Investment
Lot 37 130 Pershore Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham Residential Vacant / Development Opportunity		Lot 111 20 Blakeland Street, Bordesley Green, Birmingham Residential Vacant
		Lot 112 Unit A Great Hampton Street, Birmingham NOT TO BE OFFERED Commercial Vacant



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Property



The house in Kestrel Grove, Willenhall, is on the market with L & S Prestige Estates, call 01902 606595 for details

Semi with refitted kitchen on market

A TWO-BEDROOM semi-detached house with a refitted kitchen/diner in Kestrel Grove, Coppice Farm, Willenhall, is for sale at £132,995.

The property has double glazing and central heating, a spacious lounge, refitted lounge/diner, separate utility, conservatory, two bedrooms, family bathroom, garage storage area, tarmac driveway and rear garden.

On the ground floor the lounge, 14ft 3in by 10ft 2in, has a wall mounted electric fire with double doors to the kitchen/diner measuring 13ft 3in by 9ft 7in and with a range of wall and base units, work tops, stainless steel one and a half bowl sink, space for slot in cooker

with chimney extractor over and French doors to a conservatory which is 11ft 6in by 9ft 6in and has french doors to the rear.

There is also a utility room with a range of wall and base units, work tops, stainless steel sink with mixer tap, space and plumbing for automatic washing machine and space for tall fridge freezer - and with a door to the garage storage area.

On the first floor are two bedrooms and a bathroom with panelled bath with shower over, pedestal wash hand basin and WC.

Outside to the front is a tarmac driveway and to the rear a lawn, two paved patio areas and shrub borders.

Call L & S Prestige Estates on 01902 606595 to arrange a viewing.



There's a range of white wall and base units with work surfaces in the spacious kitchen/diner



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ARUNDEL ROAD, WILLENHALL

- . Detached Property
- . Three Bedrooms
- . Lounge / Dining Room
- . Bathroom, DG & GCH
- . Utility Room, Garage
- . EPC current rating D

£595pcm



THE BRIARS, ALDRIDGE

- . First Floor Apartment
- . Lounge / Dining Room
- . Kitchen With Appliances
- . Two Bedrooms, Parking
- . Bathroom, En-Suite
- . EPC current rating B

£550pcm



WILLOW AVENUE, WEDNESFIELD

- . Three Bed Semi
- . Kitchen/Dining Room
- . Lounge & Bathroom
- . Driveway & Garden
- . GCH & DG
- . EPC Current Rating D

£500pcm



FORGE ROAD, WILLENHALL

- . Semi-Detached Property
- . Three Bedrooms
- . Lounge, Kitchen
- . Bathroom
- . Driveway
- . EPC current rating D

£450pcm



MILTON ROAD, FALLINGS PARK

- . Mid Terraced Property
- . Three bedrooms
- . Two Reception Rooms
- . Downstairs Bathroom
- . Kitchen, GCH
- . EPC current rating E

£425pcm



MAIN STREET, STONNALL

- . Flat
- . Two Bedrooms
- . Lounge
- . Kitchen With Hob & Oven
- . Bathroom, GCH
- . EPC current rating D

£400pcm



WARDLES LANE, GREAT WYRLEY

- . Three Bedroom Flat
- . Lounge & Kitchen
- . Bathroom
- . Double Glazing
- . Gas Central Heating
- . EPC Current Rating D

£395pcm



THE CRESCENT, WALSALL

- . Ground Floor Flat
- . One Bedroom
- . Lounge, Kitchen
- . Bathroom, Cellar
- . DG, GCH
- . EPC current rating E

£350pcm



IMPERIAL BUILDINGS, WALSALL

- . Second Floor Flat
- . One Bedroom
- . Lounge, Kitchen
- . Shower Room
- . Storage Heating
- . EPC current rating D

£350pcm



BRADFORD STREET, WALSALL

- . First Floor Flat
- . Lounge, Kitchen
- . One Bedroom
- . Shower Room
- . Electric Heating
- . EPC current rating D

£295pcm



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TO LET

127 Bloxwich Road North, Short Heath, Willenhall, WV12 5PX
MODERN TOWNHOUSE



- Two Bedrooms
- Lounge
- Fully Fitted Kitchen
- Bathroom
- Downstairs W.C
- Double Glazing
- Full Gas Central Heating
- Garage

£525 PCM

TO LET

84 RAYFORD DRIVE, WEST BROMWICH, B71 3QW



SEMI-DETACHED

- Three Bedrooms
- Lounge
- Dining Area
- Fitted Kitchen
- Bathroom
- Full Gas Central Heating
- Front & Rear Gardens
- Garage
- Driveway

£550 PCM

TO LET

182 ESSINGTON ROAD, ESSINGTON, WEST MIDLANDS, WV11 2RA
DETACHED HOUSE



- Two Bedrooms
- Lounge
- Dining Room
- New Fitted Kitchen
- Family Bathroom
- Downstairs W.C.
- Gas Central Heating
- Integral Garage
- Large Rear Garden

£575 PCM

TO LET

26 Welland Grove, Kingfisher Estate, Willenhall, WV13 1HW
SEMI - DETACHED



- Three Bedrooms
- Lounge
- Dining Room
- Kitchen
- Bathroom
- Full Gas Central Heating
- Enclosed Rear Garden
- Garage
- Driveway

£525PCM

TO LET

36 Deepmore Avenue, Reedswood, Walsall WS2 8SZ
SEMI - DETACHED HOUSE



- Three Bedrooms
- Part Fitted Kitchen & Dining Area
- Bathroom
- Double Glazed
- Full Gas Central Heating System
- Front & Rear Garden
- off Road Parking On Driveway

£525 PCM

TO LET

Flat 2, 9 Leicester Street, Walsall, WS1 1PT (Town Centre)
2ND FLOOR APARTMENT



- Two Double Bedrooms
- Built In Wardrobes
- Lounge
- Fitted Kitchen
- Large Bathroom With Shower
- Security Intercom

£475 PCM

TO LET

10 Harringworth Court, Lichfield Road, Shelfield, WS4 1PQ
MODERN GROUND FLOOR APARTMENT



- Two Bedrooms
- Lounge
- Fitted Kitchen
- Bathroom
- Double Glazing
- Electric Heating
- Off Road Allocated Parking Space
- Garage

£475 PCM

TO LET

25 Waterfront Way, Saddlers Wharf, Walsall, WS2 9NH
1ST FLOOR APARTMENT



- Two Bedrooms
- Lounge
- Fitted Kitchen
- Bathroom
- Double Glazing
- Security Intercom
- Electric Storage Heaters
- Off Road Allocated Parking Space

£450 PCM

TO LET

3 Bamford Close, Little Bloxwich, Walsall, WS3 3RZ
GROUND FLOOR FLAT



- Two Bedrooms
- Lounge
- Fitted Kitchen
- Bathroom
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- Enclosed Within Security Railings & Gate

£450 PCM

TO LET

Fraser Street, Bilston WV14 7PD
END TERRACED HOUSE



- Two double bedrooms
- Gas central heating
- Front room
- Living room
- Kitchen
- Bathroom
- Rear garden

£450 PCM

TO LET

23 Waterfront Way, Saddlers Wharf, Walsall, WS2 9NH
1ST FLOOR APARTMENT



- Two Double Bedrooms (Master with En-Suite)
- Lounge
- Fitted Kitchen
- Bathroom
- Double Glazing
- Security Intercom
- Electric Storage Heaters
- Off Road Allocated Parking Space

£475 PCM

TO LET

358 Wolverhampton Road, Walsall, WS2 8RJ
MID - TERRACED HOUSE



- Three Bedrooms
- Lounge
- Kitchen / Breakfast Bar
- Bathroom
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- Rear Garden

£475 PCM

TO LET

58 Pargeter Street, Birchills, Walsall, WS2 8RP
END TERRACED HOUSE



- Two Double Bedrooms
- Lounge
- Dining Room
- Kitchen
- Bathroom
- Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing
- Rear Garden

£450 PCM

TO LET

31 Waterfront Way, Walsall, West Midlands, WS2 9NH
2ND FLOOR APARTMENT



- Second Floor
- Two Bedrooms
- Lounge / Diner
- Fitted Kitchen
- Bathroom
- Double Glazing
- Electric Heating
- Off Road Allocated Parking Space

£450 PCM

TO LET

44 Webster Road, Walsall, WS2 7AW
SEMI - DETACHED



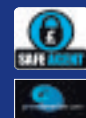
- Three Bedrooms
- Lounge / Dining Area
- Large Fitted Kitchen
- Bathroom
- Gas Central Heating
- Front & Rear Garden
- Driveway

£525 PCM



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Lot 1 Forest Avenue Walsall

Viewing: Strictly by appointment



This traditionally styled semi detached property is in need of some improvement, whilst at the same time offering an ideal opportunity for a first time buyer or investor. Spacious well planned living accommodation comprises: Enclosed Porch, Reception Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Extended Breakfast Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Separate W.C., Garage, Fore and Rear Gardens. EPC Rating E

GUIDE PRICE £60,000 - £80,000

Lot 2 Butts Road Walsall

Viewing: 2nd & 9th July at 10.30am



A spacious gas centrally heated first floor flat above shops in this convenient location in need of refurbishment. The property comprises: Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Separate W.C. EPC Rating D

GUIDE PRICE £35,000 - £40,000

Lot 3 Birchills Street Walsall

Viewing: 2nd & 9th July at 11.30am



Detached building extended at ground floor level to both sides, currently separated as Four units but lending itself to variable uses subject to necessary Planning Consent. Unit 1 - 3 Rooms and a Shower Room. Unit 2 - Room plus additional space, Shower Room, Door to Rear Lobby, Additional Room. First Floor Unit - Room opening into Room, Shower Room. Unit 4 - Room and W.C.

GUIDE PRICE £60,000 - £70,000

Lot 4 Burnside Gardens Walsall

Viewing: 29th June & 5th July at 11.15am



This mid terraced residence is situated in a prime residential area and offers an ideal opportunity for a first time buyer or investor. The well planned accommodation which is part double glazed comprises of the following: Reception Hall, Guest W.C., Lounge, Kitchen, Rear Verandah, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Fore and Rear Gardens. EPC Rating D

Guide Price £100,000 - £120,000

Lot 5 Hill Street Hednesford

Viewing: Strictly by appointment



Traditionally styled extended gas centrally heated and double glazed semi detached property ideal for a first time buyer or an investor. Internal viewing is recommended to appreciate the well planned and presented living accommodation as follows: Reception Hall, Lounge, Breakfast Kitchen, Utility/Playroom, Shower Room, Three Bedrooms, Fore & Rear Gardens, Brick Workshop. EPC Rating E

GUIDE PRICE £85,000 - £95,000

Lot 6 Briar Court Netherton

Viewing: Strictly by appointment



A fantastic investment opportunity to purchase the Freehold of a block of 7 flats including ownership of flats 1-6. Giving a potential income of £28,440.00 per annum. 5 of the flats are currently let on various Assured Shorthold and Assured Shorthold Periodic Tenancies at £395.00 per calendar month each. The remaining flat is currently unoccupied. 2 of the flats have been inspected, the remainder have not, all have night storage heaters and some have double glazing. (Details of the tenancies, service charge etc can be found on the legal documents site) As examples of accommodation: Reception Hall with store cupboard, Lounge, Kitchen, Bathroom, Bedroom. Outside the property is set behind lawned foregardens with a side driveway leading to forecourt parking. EPC Rating C-E

GUIDE PRICE £275,000 - £295,000

Lot 7 Hazel Avenue Evesham

Viewing: 2nd July at 2pm & 13th July at 10am



A two bedroom detached bungalow in a popular residential area comprising: Entrance Hall, Sitting Room/Dining Room, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom, Fore and Rear Gardens. EPC Rating C

GUIDE PRICE £125,000 - £135,000

Lot 8 Castle Square Weoley Castle, Birmingham

Viewing: Strictly by appointment



Offering an ideal investment opportunity this Freehold semi detached property comprises an opticians practice and three bedroom house, the whole generating an income of £23,400.00 per annum. Opticians Practice: Consisting of Display Area/Reception with a frontage of 9.3m and a maximum depth of 3.71m. Consulting Room, Store Room and W.C. Currently subject to a new 5 year lease to Mr C. Abban of Hills Opticians commencing July 2012 for 5 years at a rent of £1400.00 per calendar month. Benefitting from double glazing and central heating and comprising: Ground Floor: Reception Hall, Lounge, Conservatory, Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Separate W.C., Yard and Garage. Currently let on an Assured Shorthold Tenancy at £550.00 per calendar month

Guide Price £200,000 - £230,000

Lot 9 Lysways Street Walsall

Viewing: Strictly by appointment



Situated in a popular residential location close to Walsall Town Centre this ground floor flat offers gas centrally heated and double glazed accommodation. The current vendor is prepared to stay on as a tenant and sign a 6 month Assured Shorthold Contract at a rental of £425.00 PCM. The accommodation comprises: Communal Hallway, Lounge, Kitchen, Bedroom, Bathroom. EPC Rating D

GUIDE PRICE £40,000 - £45,000

Lot 10 Sun Street Walsall

Viewing: 2nd & 9th July at 11am



A unique opportunity to purchase a three storey detached family home set in its own private grounds, boasting full gas fired central heating and uPVC double glazing. The property comprises: Reception Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, L-Shaped Bedroom, En-Suite Bathroom, Garage, Workshop, Fore and Rear Gardens. EPC Rating E

GUIDE PRICE £130,000 - £150,000

Lot 11 Main Street Stonnall

Viewing: 29th June & 5th July at 10am



This Grade II listed building is set on approximately third of an acre in a desirable location in the village of Stonnall. With double glazing and gas fired central heating, the property does however need further improvement but offers a unique opportunity to a discerning purchaser. The property comprises: Entrance Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Hallway, Kitchen, Utility Room, Two Bedrooms, Additional Room, Bathroom, Driveway, Fore and Rear Gardens. EPC Rating F

GUIDE PRICE £225,000 - £250,000

Lot 11A Sherbourne Road Acocks Green, Birmingham

Viewing: 2nd & 9th July 2pm



Situated close to Acocks Green Village centre and within a minute walk of the Railway Station, this imposing Victorian semi detached residence is in need of full modernisation. Lending itself to a number of uses for owner occupation or conversion, subject to Planning Approval, the property comprises:- Enclosed Porch, Reception Hall, Living Room, Dining Room, Lounge, Breakfast Room, Kitchen, Four First Floor Bedrooms, Box Room, Bathroom, Two Second Floor Bedrooms, Fore & Rear Gardens. EPC Rating G

Guide Price £130,000 - £150,000

Lot 12 Birmingham Road Walsall

Viewing: 29th June & 5th July at 10.45am



A substantial traditionally styled detached family residence with many of its original features, offering tremendous scope for improvement and modernisation set on a good size plot with rear vehicular access to garage via private drive. The property comprises: Entrance Hall, Dining Room, Lounge, Kitchen, Rear Lobby to outbuildings, Three Bedrooms, Box Room, Bathroom, Garage, Fore & Rear Gardens. EPC Rating E

Guide Price £200,000 - £220,000

L & S PRESTIGE ESTATES

46 High Road, Lane Head, Willenhall, WV12 4JQ



FOR SALE ESSINGTON RD, ESSINGTON Deceptively Spacious, Extended Four Bedroom, Three Storey End Terraced Property Having Entrance Porch, Hallway, Lounge, Groundfloor W.C., Extended Breakfast Kitchen/Diner, Separate Utility, Master With Fitted Wardrobes & Shower, Family Bathroom With Separate Shower, Study, UPVC D/Glazing, C/Heating, Garage & Driveway. MUST VIEW. £189,995	FOR SALE JAMES STREET, WILLENHALL Four Bed Detached Property Having Lounge, Modern Kitchen Diner, Groundfloor W.C., Master With En-Suite, Family Bathroom, Tandem Garage, D/Glazing, C/Heating, Sought After Location. £184,995	FOR SALE ABERFORD CLOSE, WILLENHALL Five Bed Semi Detached Having Lounge, Spacious Kitchen, Dining Room, Family Bathroom, Separate Shower Room, D/Glazing, C/Heating, Integral Garage, Front & Rear Gardens. Cul-De-Sac Location. £174,995	FOR SALE KEYSMITH CLOSE, WILLENHALL Modern Three Storey Three/Four Bed Semi Having Entrance Hall, Dining Room/Reception Two, Kitchen Diner, Utility, Ground Floor W.C., First Floor Lounge, Master With En-Suite, Two Second Floor Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, C/Heating, D/Glazing, Detached Garage, Cul-De-Sac Location. NO CHAIN. £157,995
FOR SALE SQUIRES GROVE, NEW INVENTION Modern Three Bed Town House On The Much Sought After Squires Grove Development In New Invention Having Spacious Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, Ground Floor W.C., Master With En-Suite, Fitted Wardrobes, Family Bathroom, UPVC D/Glazing, C/Heating, Enclosed Rear Garden & Driveway. £134,995	FOR SALE KESTREL GROVE, COPPICE FARM Two Bed Semi Having Lounge, Refitted Kitchen/Diner, Separate Utility, Conservatory, Two Bedrooms Both With Fitted Wardrobes, Family Bathroom, UPVC D/Glazing, C/Heating, Half Garage/Store Area And Driveway. £132,995	FOR SALE LEVEN DR, COPPICE FARM Well Presented Mid Town House Located On The Popular Coppice Farm Estate Having Lounge, Fitted Kitchen With Integrated Oven & Hob, Two Bedrooms Master With Fitted Wardrobes, Family Bathroom, D/Glazing, C/Heating & Off Road Parking. £109,995	FOR SALE PINFOLD ST EXTENSION, DARLASTON Victorian Two Bed Semi Having Entrance Hallway, Lounge, Refitted Kitchen/Diner, Ground Floor W.C., Two Double Bedrooms, Modern Family Bathroom, D/Glazing, C/Heating & Generous Rear Garden. £109,995
FOR SALE WOOD LANE CL, W-HALL Superb Three Bedroom Detached Dornier Bungalow Comprising Of Spacious Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, Conservatory, Ground Floor Shower Room, Family Bathroom With Jacuzzi Bath C/Heating, D/Glazing, Rear Garden, Garage & Driveway. £249,995	FOR SALE MILL LANE, WILLENHALL Spacious Four Bed Detached Bungalow Having Entrance Hallway, Conservatory, Fitted Kitchen, Utility, Four Double Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, Guest Cloakroom, Garage, D/Glazing, C/Heating & Large Driveway «No Chain» £219,995	FOR SALE SOMERFORD CL, CHESLYN HAY Well Presented & Spacious Four Bed Semi Having Porch, Spacious Hallway, Lounge, Ground Floor W.C., Kitchen/Diner, Modern Refitted Bathroom, D/Glazing, C/Heating, Garage, Store Area & Block Paved Driveway. £160,000	FOR SALE DARVEL RD, WILLENHALL Immaculately Presented Three Bed Link Detached Having Entrance Porch, Hallway, Two Reception Rooms, Stylish Fitted Kitchen, Conservatory, Family Bathroom, D/Glazing, C/Heating, Tandem Garage, Carport, Driveway & Landscaped Gardens. Must View To Appreciate. £149,995
FOR SALE DOVEDALE AVE, WILLENHALL Immaculately Presented Three Bed Semi Detached Having Entrance Hall, Two Reception Rooms, Modern Refitted Kitchen With Integrated Appliances, Conservatory, Refitted Bathroom, UPVC D/Glazing, C/Heating, Garage And Block Paved Driveway. MUST BE VIEWED. £144,995	FOR SALE ALBION RD, W-HALL Large Four Bed Victorian End Terraced Property Having Two Reception Rooms, Breakfast Kitchen With Integrated Appliances, Four Double Bedrooms, Master With En-Suite, Family Bathroom, UPVC D/Glazing, C/Heating, Detached Garage, Enclosed Rear Garden & Driveway. £139,995	FOR SALE PERTH RD, THE HAYES Two Three Bed Spacious Semi Having Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Separate Dining Room/Bed Three, Ground Floor Wetroom/Utility, Additional Ground Floor Bedroom, Spacious Bedroom On First Floor, Family Bathroom, 20ft Loft Storage Room, Detached Garage & Carport, D/Glazing, C/Heating, Great Potential For Improvement. £139,995	FOR SALE WILLENHALL STREET, DARLASTON Well Presented Four Bedroom Extended Semi, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen/Diner, Conservatory, Utility Area, W.C., Family Bathroom, D/Glazing, C/Heating, Block Paved Driveway, Garage. £134,995
FOR SALE SWEET BRIAR LANE, WILLENHALL Well Presented Three Bed Semi Comprising Of Entrance Hallway, Lounge, Spacious Kitchen Diner, Conservatory, Three Bedrooms, Fitted Bathroom, D/Glazing, C/Heating, Detached Garage And Driveway. £134,995	FOR SALE PEACH ROAD, WILLENHALL Immaculate Two Bed Semi, Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, Utility, Family Bathroom, Integral Garage, UPVC Double Glazing, Central Heating, Front And Rear Garden Must View! Canal Access. £129,995	FOR SALE FARBROOK WAY, WILLENHALL Three Bed Semi On The Popular Summer Hayes Estate Having Entrance Hallway, Spacious Lounge, Breakfast Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Fitted Bathroom, Majority UPVC D/Glazing, C/Heating, Detached Garage, Enclosed Rear Garden & Driveway. £129,995	FOR SALE OAK ROAD, WILLENHALL Well Presented Three Bed Traditional Semi Having Entrance Hallway, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen Diner/Sitting Room, Family Bathroom, Part Double Glazing, Central Heating, Garage And Off Road Parking. Sought After Location. NO CHAIN £124,995
FOR SALE BENTLEY LANE, WILLENHALL Modern Refurbished Three Bed Semi Having Lounge, Stylish Fitted Kitchen, Conservatory, Three Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, UPVC D/Glazing, C/Heating And Landscaped Garden. MUST VIEW. £124,995	FOR SALE ANDREW DRIVE, SHORT HEATH Well Presented Two Bed Semi Detached Bungalow Having Entrance Hallway, Lounge, Modern Fitted Kitchen, Family Bathroom, Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating, Detached Garage And Tarmacadam Driveway. £124,995	FOR SALE ST CHADS ROAD, BILSTON Extended Two Bed Detached Bungalow, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Dining/Utility Area, Wet Room, C/Heating, Majority D/Glazing, Off Road Parking, Front And Rear Gardens. Ideal Investment. NO CHAIN. £112,500	FOR SALE BLOXWICH RD, LEAMORE Spacious Two Bed Semi Detached Having Two Reception Rooms, Fitted Kitchen, Two Double Bedrooms With Fitted Wardrobes, Family Bathroom With Separate Shower, D/Glazing, C/Heating & Off Road Parking. £104,995
FOR SALE DIBBLE CL, WILLENHALL Well Presented Three Bedroom Mid Town-House Comprising Of Entrance Hall, Spacious Kitchen, Lounge, Conservatory, Three Bedrooms, Separate W.C., Modern Family Bathroom, D/Glazing, C/Heating And Enclosed Rear Garden. £95,000	FOR SALE DIBBLE CLOSE, WILLENHALL Well Presented Three Bed Mid Town House Having Entrance Hall, Lounge, Modern Kitchen Diner, Family Bathroom, Separate W.C., C/Heating, D/Glazing, Parking To The Rear. Ideal FTB Or Buy To Let. £94,500	FOR SALE COLTHAM RD, SHORT HEATH Fully Refurbished Two Bed Mid Terraced Property Having Lounge, Spacious Fitted Kitchen, Separate Utility, Ground Floor W.C., Two Double Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, UPVC D/Glazing & Gas C/Heating. GREAT FTB £92,500	FOR SALE CONSORT DRIVE, DARLASTON Two Bedroom Mid Town House Comprising Of Spacious Lounge, Breakfast Kitchen, Two Double Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, D/Glazing, C/Heating And Enclosed Rear Garden. Great First Time Buy! £92,500
FOR SALE REGENT ST, WILLENHALL Well Presented Two Bed End Terraced Property Having Two Reception Rooms, Modern Fitted Kitchen, Separate Utility, Two Double Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, D/Glazing, C/Heating, Cul-De-Sac Location. IDEAL FIRST TIME BUY. £84,995	FOR SALE BLOXWICH RD SOUTH, WILLENHALL Well Presented Two Bedroom End Town House, Having Porch, Entrance Hall, Fitted Kitchen, Lounge, Conservatory, Family Bathroom, Double Glazing And Electric Storage Heaters. IDEAL FTB Or BTL £79,995	FOR SALE LICHFIELD ROAD, NEW INVENTION Two Bed Mid Terrace Property In Need Of Some Upgrading. The Property Briefly Comprises Of Two Reception Rooms, Fitted Kitchen, Ground Floor Bathroom, Two Double Bedrooms C/Heating, Walled Garden To The Fore And A Lawned Garden To The Rear. Great First Time Buy Or Buy To Let £79,995	FOR SALE DEVON ROAD, WILLENHALL Spacious First Floor Two Bedroom Flat Comprising Of Lounge, Fully Fitted Kitchen, Two Double Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, UPVC Double Glazing, Central Heating, Gas Central Heating & Enclosed Rear Garden And Secure Parking. £69,995
FOR SALE VICTORIA ST, WILLENHALL Recently Refurbished Two Bed End Of Terrace Property Comprising Of Two Reception Rooms, Fitted Kitchen, Rear Hall, Ground Floor Bathroom With Shower, Two Double Bedrooms, D/Glazing, C/Heating, Rear Garden, Generous Side Plot. £74,995	FOR SALE PINFOLD ST, DARLASTON One Bed Ground Floor Flat Having Entrance Porch, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Double Bedroom, Fitted Bathroom With Walk In Shower/Bath, C/Heating And D/Glazing. £59,995	TO LET CROSS STREET, WILLENHALL Recently Re-Furnished Studio Flat Briefly Comprising Of Hallway, Fitted Kitchen, Fitted Bathroom With Shower, Lounge/Bedroom. Located In Willenhall Town Centre Above Santander Bank. Great Local Amenities And Public Transport Links. Ideal For Single Professional. Must Be Viewed! £300 PCM	TO LET PRESTWOOD RD, WEDNESFIELD Well Presented Two Bed Mid-Terraced Property Comprising Of Spacious Through Lounge Diner, Fitted Kitchen, Ground Floor Shower Room With W.C., Two Double Bedrooms, D/Glazing, C/Heating And Concrete Yard To The Rear. Close To New Cross £450 PCM
TO LET RUGELEY AVE, NEW INVENTION Two Bed Mid Terraced Property Having Entrance Hallway, Through Lounge, Extended Fitted Kitchen, Two Double Bedrooms, Refitted Bathroom, D/Glazing, C/Heating & Enclosed Rear Garden. £475 PCM	TO LET HARDEN ROAD, WALSALL Well Presented Spacious Three Bed End Town House Comprising Of Entrance Hall, Through Lounge, Kitchen Diner, Ground Floor W.C., Family Bathroom With Separate W.C., C/Heating And Majority D/Glazing. £495 PCM	TO LET DOVEDALE AVE, WILLENHALL Well Presented Three Bed Semi Comprising Of Entrance Hall, Through Lounge Diner, Sitting Room/Play Room, Fitted Kitchen, Family Bathroom, UPVC Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating, Off Road Parking, Rear Garden. £500 PCM	TO LET TEMPLE RD, WILLENHALL Three Bed Mid Terraced House Having Two Reception Rooms, Large Kitchen/Diner, Ground Floor W.C., Three Double Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, UPVC Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating & Enclosed Rear Garden. £525 PCM

Willenhall 01902 606595

www.prestige-estatesuk.com



Willenhall SKITTS ESTATE AGENTS

01902 631151
willenhall@skitts.net

FEATURED PROPERTY



COPPICE FARM
NIGHTINGALE CRESCENT

- Superb Executive Detached property • Hall
- Lounge & Dining Room • Re-Fitted Kitchen & Utility
- 4 Bedrooms • Re-Fitted Bathroom • Re-Fitted En-Suite
- Garage & Driveway • Front & Rear Gardens
- Gas Central Heating • Double Glazing • ENERGY RATING D

£220,000

BRAND NEW DEVELOPMENT



SHORT HEATH
POOLES LANE

- Brand New Detached Residence • Energy Rating TBC
- Lounge/dining room • Breakfast kitchen
- Four Good Size Bedrooms • Family Bathroom & En-suite
- Gas Central Heating • UPVC double glazing
- Garage And driveway • Rear Gardens

Prices From £199,950

FEATURED PROPERTY



WILLENHALL
BLOOR MILL CLOSE

- Well Presented Modern Semi Detached • No Chain
- Hall • Guests WC • Lounge • Dining Room • Fitted Kitchen
- Three Bedrooms • Family Bathroom • En-Suite Shower Room
- Double Glazing • Gas Central Heating System
- Driveway • Rear Gardens • ENERGY RATING 'C'

£139,950

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SHORT HEATH
WOOD LANE CLOSE

- Outstanding Detached Property • Recently Accommodated
- Three Double Bedrooms • 2 Re-Fitted Bathrooms
- Conservatory • Superb Spacious Lounge • Energy C
- Excellent Re-Fitted Kitchen with Dining Area
- Garage & Driveway • Rear Gardens • Gas CH • Double Glaz

£250,000



SHORT HEATH
POOLES LANE

- Well Appointed Individual Detached Residence
- Hall with WC • Large Lounge with Dining Area • Re-Fitted Kitchen
- Three Bedrooms • Superb Luxury Bathroom
- Gas Central Heating • Double Glazing • Garage
- Delightful Extensive Rear Gardens • ENERGY RATING 'D'

£185,000



NO CHAIN

ESSINGTON
UPPER SNEYD ROAD

- Much Improved Modern Style Detached Property • No Chain
- Lounge • Superb Spacious Dining Kitchen • Conservatory
- Three Bedrooms • Re-Fitted Bathroom
- Double Glazing • Gas C/Heating • Off Road Parking
- Rear Garden • Energy Rating 'D'

£182,500



WILLENHALL
MAGNOLIA GROVE

- Beautifully Presented Detached Residence on Sought After Area
- Lounge • 22m Re-Fitted Dining Kitchen • ENERGY RATING 'C'
- Four Bedrooms • Master with En-Suite • Re-Fitted Family Bathroom
- Double Glazing • Gas Central Heating
- Garage • Off Road Parking • Pleasant Rear Garden

£180,000



COPPICE FARM
KINGFISHER GROVE

- Pleasantly appointed modern style detached property
- Three bedrooms, en-suite shower room • Lounge & dining rooms
- UPVC double glazed conservatory • Fitted kitchen & utility rooms
- Refitted bathroom with shower • Endowed rear garden
- Gas central heating • Double glazed windows • Energy rating 'D'

£179,950



NEW INVENTION
HEATH ROAD

- Spacious detached property • Popular location
- Three bedrooms • Large established garden
- 20ft lounge • Dining room • Fitted breakfast kitchen
- Bathroom • Garage and ample parking
- Gas central heating • Double glazing • Energy rating 'C'

£174,500



WILLENHALL
HIGH ROAD

- Spacious Four Bed Detached
- Lounge & Dining Room • Spacious Breakfast Kitchen & Utility
- Fitted breakfast kitchen • En-suite
- Gas central heating
- UPVC double glazed windows • Driveway • Energy Rating 'C'

Offers Over £170,000



WILLENHALL
LITTLE ISLAND DRIVE

- Superb Well Appointed Three Storey Recently Built Semi Detached
- Lounge with Juliet Balcony • Excellent Dining Kitchen
- Three Bedrooms • Family Bathroom • En-Suite Shower Room
- Gas Central Heating • Double Glazing • Energy Rating C
- Garage & Driveway • Delightful Rear Gardens

£157,000



WILLENHALL
AMPLEFORTH DRIVE

- Much improved 3 Bedroom semi
- Lounge & Conservatory
- Fitted kitchen • WC
- Gas CH & Double Glaz • Energy C
- Garage, Driveway • Garden • Bathroom, En-Suite

£150,000



WILLENHALL
ROSEHILL

- Large Period 4 Bedroom End Terrace • No Chain • Gas CH
- Lounge & Dining Room
- Breakfast Room & Kitchen
- ENERGY RATING 'D'
- Bathroom and Separate WC • Side Gardens

£140,000



COPPICE FARM
SANDALWOOD CLOSE

- Improved Semi Detached • Energy Rating 'D'
- Lounge • Re-Fitted Breakfast Kitchen
- Two Bedrooms • Bathroom
- Gas Central Heating • Double Glazing
- Garage • Drive • Pleasant Rear Gardens

£135,000



PORTOBELLO
BURFORD CLOSE (off Millchip Road)

- New Detached Bungalow • Brand New Development
- Lounge • Kitchen • Two / Three Bedrooms • Bathroom
- Gas CH • Double Glazing • Gardens • Energy DBC

£129,995



NO CHAIN

WILLENHALL
OAK ROAD

- Traditional Semi Detached Property • No Upward Chain
- Lounge & Dining Room • Spacious Breakfast Kitchen & Utility
- Three Bedrooms • Bathroom • Energy Rating 'F'
- Large Rear Gardens • Garage & Driveway
- Gas Central Heating System • Double Glazing

£124,995



NEW INVENTION
SANDLAND ROAD

- Excellent traditional semi detached property
- Superb refitted kitchen • ENERGY RATING 'D'
- Lounge & dining room • Three good size bedrooms • Bathroom
- Gas central heating & double glazing
- Large rear garden • Utility area • Viewing recommended

£118,000



WILLENHALL
ELM STREET

- Pleasant and town house property on generous plot
- Jangle off road parking • Three bedrooms • Gas C/heating
- UPVC d/glazed windows • 15ft front lounge • ENERGY D
- Fitted breakfast kitchen • UPVC d/glazed conservatory
- Upstairs bathroom • 20ft tandem length garage

£109,950 OFFERS INVITED



NO CHAIN

NEW INVENTION
MOORE ROAD

- Traditional style semi detached property • Two spacious reception rooms
- ENERGY RATING 'D' • Kitchen • Three good size bedrooms
- Bathroom • Lobby/outbuilding/wc • Requires modernisation
- Gas central heating and double glazing • Garage to the rear
- Superb front and rear gardens • No Chain

£105,000



NO CHAIN

BENTLEY
EWART ROAD

- Well Appointed Traditional Style Semi Detached • No Chain
- Spacious Lounge • Dining Room • ENERGY RATING 'C'
- Fitted Kitchen • Utility • Downstairs WC
- Two Bedrooms • Bathroom
- Two Double Bedrooms • Bathroom • Pleasant Gardens
- Gas CH • Majority Double Glazing • Off Road Parking

OFFERS OVER £99,950



NO CHAIN

WILLENHALL
VICTORIA STREET

- Improved Modern Style Semi Detached • No Chain
- Two Double Bedrooms • Bathroom
- Spacious Lounge • Fitted Kitchen
- Double Glazing • Gas Central Heating System
- Driveway • Rear Gardens • Energy Rating 'E'

£95,000

WILLENHALL

- Superb Modern detached residence • Four bedrooms
- Two receptions • Breakfast kitchen • Gas CH • Double glaz
- 2 en-suites • Bathroom • Garden • Garage • Energy 'D'

£250,000

WILLENHALL

- Impressive Mid 3 Bed Terrace Property • Energy rating 'D'
- Lounge • Re-Fitted Kitchen • Utility • WC • Bathroom
- Gas CH • Double Glazing • Driveway, Large Rear Gardens

£117,000

WILLENHALL

- Much Improved Period Mid Terrace • Three Bedrooms
- 2 Receptions • Newly Fitted Kitchen • Re Fitted Bathroom
- Double Glazing and Gas CH • No Chain • Energy 'D'

£87,500

WILLENHALL

- Modern detached • 3 bedrooms • En-suite & Bathroom
- Lounge & Dining room • Kitchen • Conservatory • Gas CH
- Garage, Drive • Gardens • Double Glaz • Energy 'C'

£199,950

BENTLEY

- Improved 3 Bedroom Semi Detached Property • Lounge
- Conservatory • Re-Fitted Dining Kitchen • Bathroom & WC
- Gas Central Heating • Energy 'D' • Driveway & Gardens

£155,000

WILLENHALL

- Superb Ground floor apartment • Two bedrooms
- Open plan lounge/kitchen • Bathroom, Parking Space
- Double glazing • Central heating • Energy Rating 'C'

£85,000 NO CHAIN

COPPICE FARM

- Superb 3 Bedroom Extended Semi Detached • ENERGY 'E'
- Lounge & Re-Fitted Dining Kitchen • Re-Fitted Bathroom
- Gas CH • Double Glazing • Garage & Driveway • Gardens

£199,950

WILLENHALL

- Superb Second Flr Apartment • Lounge with Dining Area
- Fitted Kitchen • Energy C • Two Excellent Bedrooms • Loft
- Two Parking Spaces • No Chain • Gas CH • Double Glaz

£92,000

WILLENHALL

- Mid Terrace Property • No Chain • Spacious Lounge
- Re-Fitted Kitchen • 3 • Re-Fitted Shower Room
- Double Glazing • Energy rating 'F' • Driveway & Gardens

£77,000

WE URGENTLY REQUIRE PROPERTIES IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS; COPPICE FARM, WOODLANDS & SUMMER HAYES.

Branches also at:

Bloxwich, Wednesfield, Wednesbury,
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willenhall@skitts.net

MANAGER'S CHOICE



**WEDNESFIELD
BROAD LANE SOUTH**

- Exceptional Detached Residence on Prestigious Road
- Extensive Accommodation • Reception Hall, Spacious Lounge
- Well Appointed Re-Fitted Kitchen • Utility • Double Glazing
- Four Very Large Double Bedrooms • Large Bathroom • Wc • Energy TBC
- Garage, Driveway • Superb Garden with Open Views • Gas CH

£380,000

PROPERTY OF THE WEEK



**COPPICE FARM
ULLSWATER ROAD**

- Impressive Detached Residence on Corner Plot
- Lounge, Dining Room, Conservatory • Energy Rating 'D'
- Re-Fitted Kitchen & Utility /WC
- Five Bedrooms • Re-Fitted Bathroom, En-Suite Shower Room, Wet Room
- Delightful landscaped Rear Gardens • Large Block Paved Driveway

£235,000

FEATURED PROPERTY



**COPPICE FARM
REDWOOD WAY**

- Much Improved and Impeccably Presented Modern Detached Residence
- Lounge with Stylish Fireplace • Superb Re-Fitted Dining Kitchen & Utility
- Three Bedrooms • Re-Fitted Family Bathroom • ENERGY RATING 'D'
- Double Glazing • Gas Central Heating System
- Garage • Driveway • Front & Rear Gardens

£170,000

FREE MARKET APPRAISALS - Call us now on 01902 631151



**COPPICE FARM
COPPICE FARM WAY**

- Exceptional Semi Detached Residence • No Chain
- Five Reception Rooms • Kitchen & Utility
- Five Bedrooms • Re-Fitted En-Suite • Re-Fitted Family Bathroom
- Driveway & Rear Gardens • Gas Central Heating System
- Double Glazing • Energy Rating TBC

£245,000



**BENTLEY
SILVERSTONE CLOSE**

- Detached Property in Cul De Sac Location • No Upward Chain
- Four Bedrooms • Bathroom • Energy Rating 'D'
- Three Reception Rooms • Fitted Kitchen
- Gas Central Heating • Double Glazing
- Garage • Driveway • Rear Garden

£159,950



**WILLENHALL
BAYNTON ROAD**

- Modern Style End Terrace Property • No Upward Chain
- Hall • Lounge • Re-Fitted Kitchen
- Three Bedrooms • Bathroom • Energy Rating TBC
- Gas Central Heating System • Double Glazing
- Garage • Driveway • Rear Gardens

£119,950



**NEW INVENTION
SQUIRES GROVE**

- Well Presented Modern Ground Floor Apartment
- Hall • Lounge • Fitted Kitchen
- Three Bedrooms • En-Suite Shower Room
- Bathroom • Double Glazing • Energy Rating 'D'
- Garage • Allocated Parking Space

£102,000



**HADLEY HEATH
HAWKSWELL DRIVE**

- Pleasant Modern Style Semi Detached in Popular Location
- Lounge • Fitted Kitchen • Energy Rating 'D'
- Two Bedrooms • Bathroom
- Gas Central Heating • Double Glazing
- Rear Gardens • Concrete Paved Driveway

£99,950



**BENTLEY
POPLAR AVENUE**

- Ground Floor Masonette • Spacious Lounge • Fitted Kitchen
- Two Double Bedrooms • Large Bathroom
- Gas Central Heating • Double Glazing
- Energy Rating 'D'
- Off Road Parking • Pleasant Rear Gardens

£79,950 NO UPWARD CHAIN



**WILLENHALL
OVERDALE DRIVE**

- Spacious 2 Bedroom detached bungalow • No Chain
- Two double bedrooms • Lounge with dining area • Fitted kitchen
- Kitchen • Bathroom
- Gardens • Garage, drive & carport
- Energy rating 'D'

£149,950



**WILLENHALL
ALBION STREET**

- Superb end terrace • Viewing recommended
- Spacious lounge • Dining kitchen
- Three bedrooms • Double glazing
- Gas central heating
- Garage, driveway • Energy 'C'

£129,950 NO CHAIN



**COPPICE FARM
ULLSWATER ROAD**

- Superb Well Appointed Modern Detached
- Four Bedrooms • No Chain
- Re-Fitted Family Bathroom
- En-Suite Shower Room
- Lounge • Dining Room • Re-Fitted Kitchen
- Utility • WC
- Garage & Block Paved Driveway
- Pleasant Rear Gardens
- Gas CH • Double Glazing • Energy Rating 'D'

£215,000



**WILLENHALL
PRINCETHORPE ROAD**

- Modern style and town house
- Two bedrooms
- Lounge • Spacious dining kitchen
- Gas central heating • Double glazing
- Good size rear garden • Driveway to the fore • Energy 'C'

OFFERS OVER £120,000



**NEW INVENTION
MOXHILL CLOSE**

- Well presented and terraced property
- Three bedrooms
- Lounge • Spacious dining kitchen
- Gas CH • Double glazing
- Bathroom • Rear garden • Energy Rating 'D'

£117,950



**WILLENHALL
YALE ROAD**

- Well presented modern mid town house property in cul-de-sac location
- Two double bedrooms • Lounge with dining area • Fitted kitchen
- WC/Utility • Bathroom • ENERGY RATING 'C'
- Pleasant rear garden • Driveway
- Gas central heating • Double glazing • No chain

OFFERS ABOVE £115,000



**BEACON ESTATE
MOORE ROAD**

- Well Appointed Traditional Style Semi Detached • NO Chain
- Lounge • Impressive Re-Fitted Dining Kitchen
- Three Bedrooms • Re-Fitted Bathroom
- Gas CH System • Double Glazing
- Driveway & Rear garden • Energy Rating 'D'

£115,000



**HADLEY HEATH
HAWKSWELL DRIVE**

- Extended Modern Semi Detached • Gardens
- Lounge • Re-Fitted Kitchen • Versatile Accommodation
- Ground Floor Bedroom / Dining Room • Wet Room / Utility
- Two Further Bedrooms • Bathroom • Energy Rating 'D'
- Gas Central Heating • Part Double Glazing • Driveway

£114,995 REDUCED FOR QUICK SALE



**WILLENHALL
SQUIRES GROVE**

- Coach House apartment
- Lounge, Dining Area Energy 'C'
- Fitted Kitchen
- Two excellent size bedrooms • Bathroom
- Gas CH • D/Glazing • Gym/Office/converted garage • Parking

£105,000 NO CHAIN



**WILLENHALL
LISTER STREET**

- Three bedroom mid terraced property • Energy 'D'
- D/Glazing • Gas C/Heating
- Two reception
- Fitted Kitchen • Ground Flr Bathroom
- Pleasant garden

£78,000



**WILLENHALL
PARK AVENUE**

- Mid Terrace Property • No Chain
- Lounge • Fitted Kitchen • Ground Floor Bathroom
- Three Bedrooms • Energy Rating 'D'
- Off Road Parking • Large Rear Gardens
- Double Glazing • Gas Central Heating

Offers In Excess Of £70,000

COPPICE FARM

- Modern style detached • Four bedrooms • 2 Receptions
- Gas central heating • Breakfast kitchen & downstairs wc
- Garage & off road parking • Rear Garden • Energy 'D'

OFFERS IN EXCESS OF £189,995

WILLENHALL

- Extended three bedroom property • Two Receptions
- Fitted breakfast kitchen • Bathroom • Garage & driveway
- Gas CH • Double glazing • Energy Rating 'E'

NOW £105,000

WILLENHALL

- Superb Ground floor apartment • Two bedrooms
- Open plan lounge/kitchen • Bathroom, Parking Space
- Double glazing • Central heating • Energy Rating 'C'

£85,000 NO CHAIN

SHORT HEATH

- Superb detached property • 3 bedrooms • Energy 'C'
- Spacious lounge • Dining kitchen • Luxury Bathroom
- Shower Rm • Double Glaz • Gas CH • Driveway, Garden

£169,950

PORTOBELLO

- Traditional Semi Detached • Three Bedrooms • Lounge
- Refitted Dining Kitchen • Refitted Bathroom • Gardens
- Drive • No Chain • Gas CH • Double Glaz • Energy 'D'

£105,000

WILLENHALL

- Traditional style 3 Bedroom mid terrace • Energy 'D'
- Lounge • Refitted dining kitchen • Ground Flr Shower Rm
- En-suite wc • Part d/glaz • Part Gas CH • Drive • Gardens

£85,000

WILLENHALL

- Extended traditional semi detached • 3 bedrooms
- Bathroom • Extended lounge • Dining room • Energy 'C'
- Kitchen • Double glazing • Gas CH • Rear garden • Drive

£125,000

BENTLEY

- Extended Traditional Style Semi Detached • No Chain
- Energy E • Two Receptions • Fitted Kitchen • 3 Bedrooms
- Gas CH • Double Glazing • Gardens • Garage, Driveway

£100,000

DARLSTON

- One bed ground floor flat in convenient location
- Lounge • Kitchen • Shower Room • Gas CH • D/glazing
- Communal gardens & parking • Energy Rating 'D'

£59,995 OFFERS, NO CHAIN

If you're thinking of selling or are on the market and having no interest, call Skitts Estate Agents for a Free, No Obligation Market Appraisal of your home on 01902 631151

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DIXONS

Estate Agents

Doing**More...**

Wolverhampton Road, Essington



Awaiting
EPC



£325,000

A detached dormer bungalow which has been extensively extended and improved by its current owner to a high specification.

Bloxwich Road North, Willenhall



Awaiting
EPC

£600,000

An impressive and substantial immaculately presented eight bedroom, four bathroom detached home with double garage to rear.

Wood Lane, Willenhall



EPC D

£215,000

An individually designed, extended three double bedroom detached home with detached garage. A viewing is essential.

Ampleforth Drive, Willenhall



EPC C



£230,000

A well presented four bedroom detached home with en-suite and dressing room to master bedroom. Viewing essential.

Meranti Close, Willenhall



EPC D

£230,000

A four bedroom property comprising lounge, kitchen/family room, en-suite bathroom, rear garden and garage.

Evenlode Grove, Willenhall



EPC C

Offers Over £200,000

A four bedroom, two bathroom detached home situated in the sought after "Riverpoint" development benefiting from conservatory.

Lochalsh Grove, Willenhall



EPC D



£200,000

A well presented four bedroom detached home situated in a cul-de-sac location on the popular Coppice Farm development.

Wilkes Avenue, Walsall



Awaiting
EPC

£145,000

A well presented four bedroom semi detached home situated on a sought after road in Bentley moments from Jct. 10 M6.

Lymington Road, Willenhall



EPC D

£130,000

A stunning two bedroom semi detached home situated in a cul-de-sac location on the extremely sought after "River Point" development.

Public Notice



EPC D

£112,500

2 Treetops Drive Willenhall WV12 4BQ. Acting on behalf of the receiver, dixons invite all best and final offers within 7 days.

Wingate Road, Walsall



EPC D

Offers Over £110,000

An immaculately presented three bedroom semi detached home situated on a generous corner plot with driveway to front.

Alton Avenue, Willenhall



Awaiting
EPC

Offers Over £100,000

A three bedroom semi detached home situated on a sought after road in the Pool Hayes area of Willenhall. In need of cosmetic modernisation.

Poplar Close, Walsall



EPC C

£95,000

A well presented three bedroom home situated in a popular cul-de-sac location in Bentley. Moments from Jct. 10 M6.

Quality links between landlords and tenants



URBAN LINK

SPECIALIST LETTING AGENTS

NEW £595 pcm

Slaney Road

- A modernised 4 bed mid terrace
- Through lounge and rear reception
- Modern fitted kitchen with cooker
- Downstairs family bathroom
- Gas Central heating and Double Glazing
- DSS accepted EPC rating D

NEW £525 pcm

Booth Road

- A well presented 3 bed semi detached
- 1 spacious reception room
- Modern fitted kitchen with cooker
- Upstairs family bathroom
- Gas Central Heating and Double Glazing
- Conservatory and Driveway

NEW £525 pcm

Loriners Grove

- A modern 2 bed 1st floor apartment
- 1 spacious reception room
- Modern fitted kitchen with cooker
- Pleasant family bathroom
- Master En-Suite shower room
- Secured allocated parking EPC rating B

NEW £500 pcm

NEW PRICE

Old Masters Close,

- A modern 3 bed end terrace
- 1 spacious lounge
- Fitted kitchen/diner
- Upstairs family bathroom
- Gas Central Heating and Double Glazing
- Driveway EPC rating C

NEW £495 pcm

Beacon Street

- A re-decorated 3 bed end terrace
- 2 spacious reception rooms
- Modern fitted kitchen with cooker
- Downstairs bathroom with shower
- Gas Central Heating and Double Glazing
- DSS accepted EPC rating E

NEW £495 pcm

Eclipse House

- A modern 2 bed ground floor apartment
- 1 spacious reception room
- Modern fitted kitchen with cooker
- Stylish family bathroom with shower
- Gas Central Heating and Double Glazing
- Allocated parking EPC rating C

NEW £495 pcm

Sorrel Drive

- A modern 2 bed semi detached property
- 1 spacious reception room
- Fitted kitchen / diner
- Upstairs family bathroom with shower
- Fully enclosed rear garden
- DSS accepted EPC rating D

NEW £495 pcm

Dora Street

- A traditional 3 bed mid terrace property
- 2 spacious reception rooms
- Modern fitted kitchen with cooker
- Downstairs family bathroom
- Gas Central Heating and Double Glazing
- DSS accepted

NEW £475 pcm

Terret Close

- A modern 2 bed ground floor apartment
- Open planned lounge / kitchen
- Modern fitted kitchen with cooker
- Pleasant family bathroom
- Master En-Suite shower room
- EPC rating C

NEW £450 pcm

Camberley Mews

- A modern 2 bed ground floor apartment
- Spacious living room
- Modern kitchen with integral appliances
- Pleasant family bathroom
- Gas Central Heating and Double Glazing
- Parking space EPC rating B

NEW £450 pcm

Waterfront Way

- A modern 2 bed ground floor apartment
- 1 Spacious reception room
- Modern fitted kitchen with cooker
- Family bathroom with shower
- Double Glazing throughout
- Secure allocated parking EPC rating C

NEW £450 pcm

Redhouse Street

- A superb 2 bed mid terrace property
- 1 Spacious reception rooms
- Modern fitted kitchen with cooker
- Downstairs family bathroom with shower
- Gas Central Heating and Double Glazing
- DSS accepted EPC rating C

£550 pcm

Walstead Road

- Refurbished semi detached property
- 2 Spacious reception rooms
- Modern fitted kitchen with cooker
- New modern family bathroom
- 3 Bedrooms 2 being doubles
- Enclosed rear garden EPC rating E

£500 pcm

NEW PRICE

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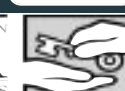
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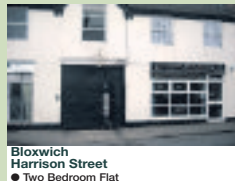
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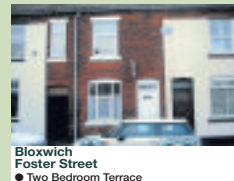
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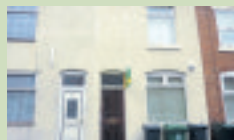
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Motoring

Compiled by Motoring
Editor Sharon Walters

Dacia Duster is proving to be a real deal buster

IF you've had cause to travel around Europe lately, you might have spotted something sporting a different badge on the roads.

Dacia products have become a popular sight in recent years – especially in France – for two very good reasons: affordability and durability. Low cost motoring is all the rage on the continent. Unlike in the UK, our foreign friends aren't such hardened badge snobs, meaning cars such as Dacia's Duster have been welcomed with open arms by cost-conscious motorists.

Simply put, when you can get a compact SUV capable of plugging mud with the best Land Rover can offer for less than the price of a Fiesta, somehow the badge on the bonnet is the least of your worries. If Dacia is a mystery to

you, you're not alone. Snapped up by Renault some time ago, critics thought the French firm was taking a huge risk with this budget maker of uninspiring cars.

The passing of time has proven the naysayers wrong, as Renault's input has led to a portfolio of value-driven, dependable, stylish and capable products; from superminis to the aforementioned Duster.

Appearance

Lifestyle SUVs are two-a-penny these days but few are that cheap anymore. Most are increasingly car-like in their appearance and on-road performance.

The Duster retains a chunky-looking, purposeful exterior of a traditional 4x4 but with enough curves to help it slice through the air with relative ease.

The emphasis might be on modest performance and equipment levels, but there's nothing cheap about the Duster. Low power petrol and diesel engines are offered (1.6-litre, 105bhp petrol and 1.5-litre, 110bhp diesel), plus the choice of front or four-wheel drive.

The switchable all-wheel drive system allows a driver to choose between front-drive, an auto-sensing mode and a locked 4x4 setting.

Factor in three trim levels and there's little else you might want. Well, apart from air-con, a stereo and alloy wheels. Yes, this is how Dacia can price the Duster so low.

If you want these creature comforts, you're going to have to pick the middle specification for some tunes and the highest spec model if you want manual air conditioning and alloys.

Still, even if you opt for the flagship Duster, you're not even close to high-spec Skoda Yeti

money. The car's interior looks and feels tough thanks to sensible trim and material choices, although it retains an easy-on-the-eye appearance.

Familiar Renault switchgear rounds off the driver-centric side of things, while the Duster's cabin is a good size and easily capable of accommodating a growing family.

Capacity

Move rearwards and the ability to fold the rear seats for extra load capacity is a detail that won't belost on active families.

On the move, there's a similar feeling of accomplishment. While neither engine is bursting with excess horsepower, brisk progress is possible.

The petrol engine might be a little quieter than the diesel alternative but it's the latter

that scores the highest in terms of flexibility and economy. Those attributes alone should have anyone considering using the Duster as a family workhorse to plump for the oil burner.

Predictably, all-wheel drive variants grip and go with ease on a variety of surfaces, but if the Duster is scheduled for only light duties, there's no shame in opting for a two-wheel drive variant. Furthermore, compliant suspension and accurate steering put to rest any notion that low cost equals lack of talent.

By taking a common sense, low frills approach to motoring, Dacia has won many friends and satisfied owners in mainland Europe. The firm's Duster is proof that, even in the fashion-led world of lifestyle SUVs, you can succeed if all the elements – looks, ability, affordability, practicality – add up.



The Duster welcomed with open arms by the cost-conscious Continental motorist



The Duster can compete off-road with a Land Rover but you can grab it for the price of a Fiesta

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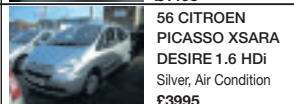
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Gray puts up tough fight but just loses

WAR was declared at the Paragon Hotel in Birmingham as Telford's Kieron Gray took home warrior Terry Carruthers the distance in another ultimately losing effort at a belt.

The two light middleweights left nothing in the ring on Friday as they did battle for one of the new International Masters Bronze titles, staged at eight rounds round than 10, in a compelling brawl.

The plan now is for them for to do all it again over 10 for the vacant Midlands title in the autumn, a title Gray came close to capturing but it was scored a draw with Jamie Ball in 2010.

The Shropshire slugger comes to fight and faced Olympian Anthony Ogogo and Commonwealth title challenger Ronnie Heffern in his last two paid outings.

Rock-hard and heavily-tattooed Carruthers is an imposing figure and tried to bully Gray from the off but this soon proved futile, with Gray a willing brawler.

They boxed at close quarters and were only too happy to trade, with only Carruthers standing off to give himself room to load up fierce hooks.

At the end referee Terry O'Connor had Carruthers' way on points by 78-74.

Lockmen will play for charity

WILLENHALL Town FC will be playing a charity match next month in memory of one of their fans.

The Lockmen will play Wren's Nest FC in the Bill Rowe Charity match for the British Heart Foundation.

The match will be held on Tuesday July 30 at Long Lane, Essington, and kick-off is 7.45pm.

Entrance is £5 on the gate. Bill Rowe was from Willenhall and supported The Lockmen.

Mr Rowe worked for many years for the Willenhall company Dynatex, which sponsors the team's track-suits.

He had dealings with Wren's Nest football club as well as the Lockmen.

The charity was nominated by Mr Rowe's family.

All proceeds from the night, including entrance fee will go to the charity.

The club is appealing for local families and fans of both clubs to come and support the night.

Brett in the GB saddle

TEENAGED endurance horse rider, Brett Corcoran has been selected to represent Great Britain at the 2013 FEI World Young Rider Endurance Championships in Tarbes, France on July 27.

Brett, aged 16, from Eccleshall, will tackle the 125km course in the foothills of the Pyrenees riding his Arab horse, Bashir Shamir.

The five-strong British contingent was chosen after a team selection trial on June 16 at the Endurance GB Wimpole Way ride in Cambridgeshire.

Brett said "This will be the first time I have competed abroad and I'm feeling confident."

"Bashir Shamir can be spooky but when he's competing he has his mind on the job in hand".

Groundshare plan not an option - Smith



Manager Dean Smith

WALSALL are set to confirm there will be no groundsharing deal with crisis club Coventry City for next season.

Saddlers boss Dean Smith says he has been assured no agreement will be made and an official announcement from both clubs is now expected in the coming days.

Speculation the Sky Blues might play at the Banks's for the next three years has been rife for weeks and appeared to be back on the agenda following the Football League's decision to back the troubled club's prospective takeover by Otium Entertainment.

Saddlers

But Smith believes any deal would simply not have worked. The Saddlers boss admitted concerns over the impact on the Banks's pitch.

"I'm led to believe there will be no groundshare between ourselves and Coventry," said Smith.

"I for one am pleased. I just don't see it working. Coventry are in administration and are in the same league as us, I think it would have looked a bit silly."

He added: "The weather has

caused us a lot of trouble this year and I don't think playing two games a week will be good for the pitch.

"Plus I don't really want to share my office with anyone else either!" Otium are the parent company of Coventry's hedge fund owners Sisu, who plan to leave the club's Ricoh Arena home following a bitter rent dispute with their landlords Arena Coventry Limited.

The Saddlers are thought to be one of three clubs they have spoken to about a possible groundshare while a new stadium is built.

Coventry have been in adminis-

tration since March and Otium were named as the preferred bidder for the club by administrator Paul Appleton recently.

The League statement confirming they will work with Otium cleared the way for the club to exit administration and move ahead with plans for a new ground.

Any move outside Coventry will be opposed by the vast majority of Sky Blues fans, who have threatened to boycott home games.

An exclusive poll on the Express and Star website last month showed Walsall fans were largely divided on the groundshare issue.

Skipper's late try is Bulldogs' clincher

Birmingham Bulldogs 28 Coventry Bears A 22

BIRMINGHAM Bulldogs Rugby League FC came into this match on the back of two successive defeats, and after the opening quarter of an hour, a third loss loomed.

But Brum fought back well and held on for a memorable win.

Playing up the slope, Birmingham grabbed possession from the off, but it was Bears who opened the scoring after three minutes when right wing Chris Dixon crossed in the corner.

Coventry extended their lead when Greg Moore touched down and scrum half George Rea added the goal.

Bulldogs cut the gap when left-winger Jermaine Bernard snaffled an up-and-under and cut in for a try that stand-off Sam Edgar converted.

MoM Edgar joined the try scorers' list, adding the extra points.

Bears attacked as half time approached, but lost possession when Brum left winger Curtis Harris intercepted and raced clear to touch down by the posts, Edgar goaling.

With the slope in their favour for the second half, Bulldogs' centre Toby Davies went over for a try that Edgar goal.

Bears did all they could to rescue the game, but Dogs defended determinedly to keep them out. Then, with under five minutes left, full back and skipper Matt Dudley broke clear and held off his pursuers to cross wide on the left and clinch a win for Bulldogs that they just about deserved.

Conor Slater was Coventry's MoM.

Bulldogs next fixture is away to North Derbyshire Chargers this Saturday June 29 at 2.30 pm.

Phagura's four-wicket haul in vain

WB Dartmouth 1st XI 91 Walmley 92-6 - Walmley won by six wickets.

DARTMOUTH fell to just their second defeat of the season at Walmley.

Dartmouth lost the toss and were invited to bat on a rain affected pitch.

Outstanding bowling from Greg Ricketts (6-12) helped dismiss Dartmouth for 91 despite a fighting 28 from Mehraj Ahmed.

Dartmouth's bowlers also found the conditions to their liking with 17-year-old Brinder Phagura taking 4-14 as Walmley slipped to 51-6. A fine 38no from Andrew Hendry led Walmley to victory without further loss.

Wellington 2nd XI 219-8 WB Dartmouth 221-3 - Dartmouth won by 7 wickets

HAFAEEZ Khan starred with 4-45 as Wellington were limited to 219-8. Dartmouth raced past that total for the loss of three wickets thanks to 85 from Manoj Patel and 49 from Hiran Dhoolab.

WB Dartmouth 3rd XI 148-9 Bloxwich 149-5 - Bloxwich won by five wickets.

DARTMOUTH'S total was made possible by 48no from Aaron Patel and 30 from Adil Jiva. Bloxwich were able to pass that total thanks to 64 from Aaron Alcock.

WB Dartmouth 4th XI versus Bloxwich was abandoned without a ball being bowled.

This Saturday Dartmouth 1sts hope to return to winning ways at Shrewsbury.

World title is focus as Ellie now 'moving on'

PARALYMPIC hero Ellie Simmonds has insisted she must move on from London 2012 as she targeted World Championship glory.

The Walsall star is ready for the British Gas Swimming Championships in Sheffield – a warm-up for the IPC World Championships in Montreal in August.

She has already qualified for Canada after April's British International Disability Swimming Championships.

And, almost a year after she won double gold at the Paralympics, Simmonds is focused on the future.

"We do need to move on; it's nice to have people talking about it as it brings some amazing memories back and it shows the public still think about London," said the 18-year-old.

"After London I was here, there and everywhere. I wasn't in my normal routine and when I did get back into it, it was suddenly a bit boring.



Ellie Simmonds

"Each week I was doing something different, something amazing – but it can't be like that all the time, you have to get back into the routine."

"Luckily this year we have some really good sport like the Ashes, the Lions tour and the World Championships to keep us going."

Simmonds claimed 400m freestyle and 200m IM gold, 100m freestyle silver and 50m freestyle bronze at London, adding to her double gold from Beijing in

Swimming

2008. And she admitted she has used the World Championships as motivation this year after struggling in the aftermath of the Games.

"Since Beijing, everyone was talking about London, so everything was preparing for that," said Simmonds, who is joined in Sheffield by Kidderminster's Claire Cashmore.

"The three months after London was exciting but swimming at times was quite hard. Luckily enough we had trials and I needed to focus on the Worlds in August."

"It has been hard, but that was because London was so amazing."

"That's what kept me motivated, first the trials and then the Worlds."

Simmonds races in the 400m freestyle and 200 IM, but insisted she will use the week to tweak any errors in her performance.

"I'm not thinking about times, I'm just going out there and racing to see how I swim. I'll see if there's anything I need to improve on or anything I'm doing wrong," she said.

"It's a big event and I can see how I am swimming. I'm looking forward to racing, as it's been a long time since the trials. It adds to the pressure but it's nice people are watching me and encouraging me."

Sponsor equips boxing club to move forward



From left, assistant coach Andy Peach, MD of James Evans Financial Services Chris Evans, Great Wyrley Sports & Social Club steward Simon Barnes, club president Scott Pearce and coach Peter Hickenbottom in the new ring

GREAT Wyrley ABC are ringing the changes thanks to the generosity of their sponsor.

James Evans Financial Services has paid for a new boxing ring for their gym.

Coach Peter Hickenbottom said: "Chris Evans, managing director of James Evans Financial Services, started training down the gym last year and became our sponsor almost immediately."

"I said we didn't want a cash sponsor but would welcome any equipment Chris would care to get us. To say he has been generous is an

understatement. Before the exhibition show two weeks ago, Chris and I discussed the gym and I said I would like to use the money raised to buy a new sparring ring."

"Immediately Chris said he would buy it for the club and was on the phone to Unibox ring hire/suppliers and arranged for them to come over and measure up."

"Last week they came over and installed it. I cannot thank Chris and James Evans Financial Services enough, especially in these hard times, a marvellous gesture, greatly appreciated by me, assistant coach

Andy and everyone who uses the gym. The ring is fantastic, a proper competition ring."

The gym now has two rings after moving the old one in the back room. It was much needed, considering the numbers we are getting down here and gives the gym a more Professional look."

"Fourteen and a half years the club has been running now . . . and hopefully the club is now moving on to the next level and next season should be very exciting indeed with everyone in the gym already looking forward to the new season."

Fullwell is tops as region's darters struggle

WEST Midlands darters struggled at the weekend with Stourbridge's Nick Fullwell the pick of the bunch in the PDC Players Championship double-header.

Two tournaments were held at the K2 Centre in Crawley, one on Saturday and one on Sunday, where Fullwell reached the third round and earned himself £500.

Wolverhampton's Wayne Jones and West Bromwich-born Steve Farmer were the only other two from the West Midlands to reach the money stages in either event.

Jones opened on Saturday by dropping just a leg in a 6-1 defeat of Gino Vos, only to then lose in the last and deciding leg to John Bowles in a see-saw second round tie.

"The Wanderer" is enduring a difficult year in non-televised competition and his luck didn't improve in Sunday's tourna-

ment, losing 6-5 in the first round to Tomas Seyler. Farmer, meanwhile, had impressed in the first round on Saturday by defeating world No 18 Ronnie Baxter 6-4, only to then lose comprehensively, 6-2 to Terry Temple.

"The Train" then rolled into Sunday's event and made it to the second round by beating Joey Palfreyman 6-2, but he couldn't crack world No 19 Paul Nicholson and lost 6-4.

Fullwell went one better and had been picking up some results since Saturday, overcoming Darren Johnson 6-2 before being on the receiving end of a 6-3 loss to Adrian Gray.

On Sunday, 'the Hero' beat David Dodds 6-4 but was stretched to the last leg by Stephen Hardy before winning 6-5. World

No 7 Wes Newton proved too much in a 6-2 defeat.

Rugeley's Mark Hylton has suffered his own fall from grace over the course of this year and it got no better for him at the weekend, losing in the first round of both tournaments.

"Mile High" – a former airline cabin crew manager – got short shrift out of Colin Lloyd in the first round on Saturday, exiting 6-1, before Sunday's 6-3 defeat to Stuart Kellett.

Brierley Hill's Mark Jones came home pot-less after failing to make it past the first hurdle, missing the money stages, starting with a 6-3 loss to Swede Magnus Caris on Saturday.

"Little Mon", a self-employed plasterer, was back at the oche for Sunday's final

tournament but fared little better, being on the receiving end of a last leg 6-5 defeat to Ross Smith.

Wednesbury's Matthew Dicken, a Youth Tour regular, went up against experience from the off when he was paired with 'the fastest player in the game', Vincent van der Voort.

Dicken pulled back a couple of legs but couldn't match the pace of the Dutchman's swift throws and lost 6-2. The 20-year-old then lost 6-1 to Peter Wright, again in the first round.

Wright went all the way and won Saturday's tournament, beating Newton 6-1 in the final. Another Dutchman, the in-form Michael van Gerwen won Sunday's tournament, easing past Andy 'The Hammer' Hamilton 6-1 in the decider.

SPORT

New ring
Sponsor boosts
boxing club
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Moving on
Ellie has eyes on
a new prize
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Brandy is poised to sign deal with rivals

FEBIAN BRANDY was set to walk out on a new deal at Walsall and join Sheffield United.

The 24-year-old forward is reported to be undergoing a medical at the Blades after agreeing a three-year deal, as one of the biggest Saddlers sagas of the summer appeared to be nearing a conclusion.

Walsall could be hit by a double blow as huge doubts still remain over the future of 20-goal striker Will Grigg. Neither Grigg nor Brandy, whose contracts expire next week, were present at Essington as the Saddlers began pre-season training.

Both have been the subject of continued speculation in recent months as talks over new deals stalled and Brandy has now decided his future lies away from the Banks's.

Despite telling boss Dean Smith he wanted to play Championship football, the former Manchester United trainee has opted to remain in League One with the Blades.

It is a move bound to disappoint Smith along with Saddlers supporters, who had hoped Brandy would show more loyalty after enjoying a career revival last season, scoring seven goals in 37 appearances.

And with Grigg's future also in serious doubt, Smith faces the prospect of being left short of strikers.

Wolves start of a new era

KENNY JACKETT has admitted he transfer listed four of Wolves' big-hitters because he needs to "change the dynamics of the dressing room" as he declared a new era for the club.

The Molineux head coach told Roger Johnson, Jamie O'Hara, Karl Henry and Stephen Ward they weren't part of his plan as the players returned for the start of pre-season training.

Jackett believes it's vital to change the profile of the players at the club as he plans for League One.

"We'll be making assessments and communicating with the powers-that-be as we try to change the dynamics of the dressing room," said Jackett.

"We want to produce a young, vibrant, hungry Wolves team and keep an eye on the market and make sure we're competitive for the players we want."

Smith and O'Kelly the best duo, says Kearns

WALSALL legend Mick Kearns has hailed Dean Smith and Richard O'Kelly as the best management duo he has known at the club.

The former Ireland international, who last week announced his retirement as the club's goalkeeping coach and community director, has seen a multitude of managers come and go during four decades spent with the Saddlers.

Witnessing manager Smith and assistant O'Kelly's work has left the 62-year-old excited for the future.

Kearns says their chemistry, coupled with strong man management and the ability to

Saddlers

develop young players, makes them the perfect couple for the club. He said: "I played under good managers and I've known good managers, Dave McKay, Chris Nicholl, Ray Graydon, they were all terrific managers."

"But in all my time at Walsall, since 1973, we now have the best pair I have seen in Dean Smith and Richard O'Kelly."

"Both are fantastic lads, ex-players of Walsall who have the club at heart but above all have the ability to get the best out of their

players. We have a reputation for bringing through our own players and they are fantastic at developing them."

"Looking forward, that is where I have confidence. These two are the right people to develop the players there in the first-team squad now, and those that are going to come through."

"I don't think I can give the two of them enough of a compliment that in 40 years they are the best partnership I have seen. I honestly think that."

Former keeper Kearns made 322 appearances for the Saddlers and has been a

regular part of the club's coaching staff since 1982. He believes last week's resigning of both Adam and James Chambers was an important step if the Saddlers are to improve on last season's ninth-placed finish in League One.

"Dean may well sign players to enhance the squad," he added. "But last year they were a young, inexperienced team."

"A significant signing is Adam Chambers, one of the main reasons we had that real good run was when he came back into the side. He and James are really influential players."

Opening clash for new boss

NEW Pelsall Villa boss Craig Timmins took on his former side Walsall last night (Wednesday). And he said he was looking forward to his first home game at the helm.

Timmins was part of the youth team at Banks's Stadium during his formative years in the game and now, at the age of 27, he is one of the youngest managers in the country, with a raft of coaching qualifications to his name.

"I enjoyed my time at Walsall and still follow the fortunes of the club," he said.

"So for them to send a team for my first home game as manager is fantastic."

"I was involved last year when Pelsall took on Walsall and that was a decent game played in front of a good crowd."

After The Saddlers, newly-promoted Midland Football Alliance outfit, Walsall Wood, are the next visitors to The Bush on Thursday, July 11.

Trips to Burntwood Town (Saturday, July 13), Tipton Town (Saturday, July 20), Wyrley (Tuesday, July 23) and Droitwich Spa (Saturday, August 3) follow, while Timmins is hopeful of adding a couple more high-profile encounters.

Half-century by Fell was in vain

WOLVERHAMPTON batsman Tom Fell's half-century was in vain as Worcestershire took a seven-wicket thrashing at the hands of Northamptonshire in the Yorkshire Bank 40.

Nineteen-year-old Fell top-scored for the Royals at Northampton with 55 off 71 deliveries. But Worcestershire were restricted to 187-8 off their 40 overs.

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BOSS KEEN TO KEEP HOLD OF PATERSON

DEAN SMITH says Walsall will not be forced to sell star players such as Jamie Paterson on the cheap.

The Saddlers last month rejected a bid from Championship outfit Huddersfield Town for the 21-year-old winger.

Paterson, who still has one year remaining on his current contract, has emerged as one of the Saddlers' brightest young prospects and has been named as the club's young player of the year for the past two seasons.

Smith is keen to keep hold of a player who scored 13 goals last season and says he is under no pressure to sell, hinting that any successful bid would have to be a significant increase on that received from the Terriers.

Saddlers

from the chairman and the board.

"We are not going to be selling our best players for nothing."

"Jamie has been at the club for a long time and we don't want to sell him."

The Saddlers returned for training this week with the futures of forward duo Will Grigg and Febian Brandy still very much undecided.

Smith expects a decision from Grigg "either way" soon, though Brandy wants to play Championship football and is attracting interest from League One rivals Sheffield United.

Despite the uncertainty, the manager is confident the club are in a much stronger position than 12 months ago, when just six senior players were signed up.

To date Smith has a squad of 16 and that number will increase with defender Ben Purkiss ready to sign a new deal, along with former youth teamers Jake Heath, Danny Griffith and Liam Roberts, who have all been offered contracts.

"It's the direction we want the club to be going in, where there is not a big turnover of players," said Smith.

Saddlers embark on pre-season Caribbean tour



Walsall players are put through their paces after reporting back for duty for the pre-season

WALSALL will prepare for the new League One campaign in the sun after announcing an unprecedented pre-season tour to Trinidad and Tobago.

Dean Smith's men will spend a week on the Antilles islands, where they will play three matches against local opposition. The Saddlers' longest trip of the pre-season looked set to be the July 16 journey to Derbyshire outfit Alfreton Town - but they will now fly 4,500 miles when their tour begins next Wednesday, July 3.

Smith's side have been invited by Central FC, a TT Pro League outfit founded by former Dunder and Gillingham player Brent Sancho and managed by ex-England international Terry Fenwick. The club's

operations director Kevin Harrison is a friend of the Saddlers manager.

Walsall will play a Trinidad and Tobago XI and a League Select XI. The blue-riband clash is against hosts Central FC who they meet at the Ato Bolden Stadium in Couva on July 9.

Coaching

While on the islands, the Saddlers will also undertake coaching within the community and attend local schools as well as meeting the Mayor of San Fernando Dr Navi Muradali.

"This is a fantastic opportunity for the club," said Smith.

"We had been looking for somewhere to go on tour since the end of last season and this fits in perfectly

with our schedule. A mutual friend put Kevin Harrison, who I know from my time at Leyton Orient when he worked for the PFA, and who is also involved with the Football Players' Association of Trinidad and Tobago, in touch with me and it has gone from there."

"We will take part in three games and also get involved with the local community, so it's going to be a productive and worthwhile seven days."

"As good as our training ground is, it's always nice to be able to get away and spend some time in different surroundings."

"This experience is going to be extremely beneficial to us and hopefully those we meet along the way."

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